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REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

Travels in Ethiopia, above the Second Cataract of the Nile; exhibiting the State of that Country, and its various Inhabitants, under the Dominion of Mohammed Ali; and Illustrating the Antiquities, Arts, and History of the Ancient Kingdom of Meroe. By G. A. Hoskins, Esq. With a Map, and Ninety Illustrations of the Temples, Pyramids, &c. of Meroe, Gibel-el-Birkel, Solib, &c., from Drawings finished on the spot, by the Author, and an Artist whom he employed. 4to. pp. 367. London, 1835. Longman and Co.

A QUARTO book is almost a miracle in these days; and one so richly embellished as this, with no fewer than fifty-four lithographic engravings and thirty-five wood-cuts, is wonderful in our eyes. But if the work were not made worthy of approval by such solid and beautiful attractions, its subject would sufficiently recommend it. The early history of mankind, illustrated by the remains yet found in the cradle of their most ancient records, on the banks of the Nile, has long been growing into that importance which its interest attaches to it; and every new discovery, every advance in the means of unravelling the mysterious symbols in which it is shrouded, and every light which can be thrown upon its dark shadows, are hailed with satisfaction by the inquiring mind. The contributions of Mr. Hoskins must, therefore, be peculiarly acceptable, for he has trodden a field hitherto very slightly explored, and rescued from oblivion a mass of materials which are likely to assist us greatly in all our future investigations connected with the primal movements of our race towards civilisation, the origin of the arts and sciences, and the first events in which nations acted in aggregate bodies, as invasions, wars, government, and religious institutions.

Our author spent the year 1833 in Ethiopia, and carefully inspected the country and its striking ruins, paying much attention to portions comparatively little visited by English travellers, and of which no accounts have been given to the English public. Bruce, Burckhardt, Lord Prudhoe, Major Felix, Caillaud, Heeren, and Rosellini, are the principal explorers and writers to whom we are indebted for such information as we possess; and to this Mr. Hoskins has added much in a systematic and connected manner, which renders his volume extremely valuable in every point of view to the general reader, and particularly to those who have engaged in prosecuting similar researches into Egyptian antiquity.

The ancient Meroe, the capital of Ethiopia, was the grand object of his expedition; and, accompanied by M. Bandoni, a skillful Italian artist, he set out on his mission from Assuan, up the stream, and across the great Nubian desert. His route was from Korosko, a little below Derr, about midway between the first and second cataracts, and he touched the Nile again at Abou-Hammed, opposite the Island Mograt; having thus avoided all the great bend

in which the second, third, and fourth cataracts are situated. On one hand were the Ababde, and on the other the Bishareen Arabs. He then ascended to the Isle of Meroe, surveyed it as minutely as his time allowed, crossed the Bahiouda desert from Shendy to Eitne, a little below the fourth cataract, and returned by Dougolah, and down the river. By reference to the map, it will be seen that he thus reached within about a hundred miles of the junction of the Blue and the White rivers; and traversed regions of curious variety and adventure. Of its character the following quotations will afford an idea:—

“Arrival at the Nile. Village of Abou-Hammed.—Feb. 23. We left this morning at seven, and reached the banks of the Nile in five hours. There is no apparent descent from the desert. Our fatigues and sufferings were all forgotten, and every one seemed to bless his stars, and think it luxury to quaff again the delicious waters of this most noble of streams, uncontaminated by the taste of the geerbah skins, and no longer confined to the scanty allowance of the caravan. The Ababdes have found here many relations and friends, and there seems to be no end to salamat and taip eens, to shaking of hands and embracing. At their request I have consented that the remainder of the day shall be devoted to repose and festivity. My servants have killed the first sheep they could find; part of which, and a small backsheesh (present of money), I have given to the Ababdes to complete their happiness. They are already at work, drinking the bouza; and I observe that some pretty Berber women, with their jests and charms, are increasing their hilarity. We have been eighty-six hours in this route:—Thirty-three hours in the valleys, at two miles and three quarters per hour, 91½ miles; fifty-three hours on the plains, which I calculate at three miles per hour, 159. This agrees very satisfactorily with the known difference of latitude,* 250 miles.”

The singing alluded to in the note is described as a constant practice of the Arabs

* “The reader will have observed that my estimate of the pace of the camel differs from those of many travellers, and particularly from that of Mr. Burnes, the author of the justly celebrated work, ‘Travels into Bokhara’ (see vol. ii. p. 149); but he must recollect that my camels were of the Bishareen race. My servants were all mounted; and the animals, even at starting, were not heavily laden with a dock of water, which diminished daily. There being only one well containing water, and that bad, in a distance of 250 miles, it was their interest to urge on their camels, which they did by singing in the manner I have described. I took great pains to ascertain the pace of these animals, observing not only theirs, but also that of the drivers walking by their side, dismounting repeatedly myself for that purpose. I had the gratification to find, on arriving at the Nile, that my calculations agreed, within two or three miles, with the observations of latitude. I have made many long journeys on camels, and I certainly think that animal, when well taken care of, and not overloaded, fully capable of marching ten or eleven hours per day, at the average rate of two miles and a half an hour in valleys or over rough roads, and three miles on plains, without being at all distressed. On the banks of rivers, and in districts where water and forage are plentiful, except urged on, the men are always inclined to move more slowly, and make a shorter day’s journey, not so much to save their camels as to lessen the fatigue to themselves: a few days more or less on route being generally a matter of indifference to them.”

when they wish to urge their animals to greater speed: a sort of chaunt equivalent to our *gee-ups* and *gee-wos*. At Makkarif, the capital of the Turkish province of Berber, Mr. H. paid his respects to the governor, and describes him and the sheakhs, &c. sitting with him in divan:—

“On his right was the grand cadi, in a brown dress, with a green turban (the badge of his having made the pilgrimage to Mecca, and being a sheriff, or descendant of Mahomet). He is a native of this country, and fills the offices of high priest and chief judge. The bey paid him great attention; no doubt on account of his great influence with the people. He has a very jesuitical countenance: I thought of Alfieri’s celebrated speech in Saul. Next to this priest was Sheakh Sayd, the chief of the Ababdes. His family have held this title from time immemorial: the stamp of nobility is marked upon his high forehead; and there is an expression of dignified mildness in his countenance which commands respect: he interested me exceedingly. Another, but inferior sheakh of the Ababdes, was seated next to Sheakh Sayd, in a blue linen dress. Next to the Ababde sheakh was the melek Nazr ed Deen. This man was forty years melek or king of this province. I am informed that the melek of Shendy and Metammah attacked his kingdom, defeated him, seized his riches, and sullied the honour of his family. In revenge, it is said he fled to the pasha of Egypt, and represented to him how easily he might subdue the country. The Arabs, and in this district particularly, extol in the most hyperbolical terms the merits of their great men. I will mention their expressions in a few instances, as characteristic. According to their extravagant accounts, the war-cry of this melek was, ‘I am a bull, the son of a bull, and will die or conquer!’ They assert that he is able to cut a camel in two with a blow of his sabre, and to eat a whole sheep to his breakfast. He really is an amazingly stout man for this country, and both his appearance and manners are surly and repulsive, which, however, is not extraordinary, when we consider that he is now a disregarded pensioner (having merely the rank and pay of a katsheff), and no real authority in the extensive province where, at one time, his will was law. Several other personages were present, among whom were katsheffs, kaymacans, and artillery officers; Sheakh Behir, now melek of Shendy, and some sheakhs of the Bishareens. In the centre of the room stood about thirty attendants; cowhasses, with their silver-headed canes, armed with pistols and sabres; janissaries in the Albanian dress; mamelukes, Turkish soldiers, sheboukgees, slaves, &c. &c. The bey was playing at drafts with Sheakh Sayd when we entered, but immediately closed the board, and rose from his seat. He received us very courteously, ordered us pipes and coffee in abundance, and a fresh supply of the latter at least every half hour; and, contrary to the Egyptian custom, there came usually two cups for each person at a

time. Their manner of presenting it is in the highest style of Turkish fashion; holding the bottom of the fingan (cup) between the first finger and thumb, with the hand curved. It was presented at the same time to the bey and myself; then to the others, according to their rank. I presented to him the firman of the pasha. He looked at the seal, kissed it, and applied it to his forehead in token of his obedience; but at the same time assured me that, on account of my being an Englishman, even if I had brought no firman, he would have done whatever was in his power to facilitate my plans. He would not allow us to leave him without partaking of his evening meal, a short description of which may amuse the reader. After we had well lathered our hands in the usual Turkish manner, the round white metal table was brought in, and we all squatted down on the floor, with due decorum, around it. We had first soup, and afterwards twenty dishes of meat, one following the other, and the dinner finished with a pillow of rice. We used wooden spoons for the soup, diving into the dish promiscuously; the meat we ate with our fingers, using always the thumb and two fore-fingers of the right hand; each person keeping as well as he could to his own angle of the dish. Holding a piece of bread in his hand, he fished out the pieces of meat, with a due proportion of gravy. The dishes were all small, and some of them very *recherchés*; but, as usual, it was mutton, mutton, nothing but mutton, though disguised in a great variety of forms, with herbs, beans, and sauces from Cairo. The hands of the bey had the precedence in plunging into each dish, and the paws of the others briskly followed those of their leader. Having tasted one or two choice morsels, his excellency nodded his head, and that plate vanished. A number of hungry attendants, who were to dine upon the remains of the feast, waited in a string, and handed the dishes back and forward, from one to the other, with the greatest rapidity. Very little was said during the repast; indeed, whoever is so foolish as to converse on such an occasion runs a great hazard of faring indifferently. As it was, I had rather a scanty supper; for perceiving it was *bon ton* to eat of every dish, and not knowing how many might follow, I did not duly profit by the precious moments. Old Nazr ed Deen, who, as I have stated, is reported to breakfast with such a voracious appetite, seemed by no means satisfied, although I observed that he made the best use of his time. The whole affair was finished in twenty minutes. Some of the dishes were not one minute on the table. The bey, with his fugacious nod, reminded me of the physician at the island, who was so considerate for Sancho Panza's digestive powers. I ought not to omit mentioning, that the bey, as a special act of politeness to myself, selected often the most delicate morsels from the best dishes, with his own besmeared fingers, and placed them before me. I did not quite relish such a greasy gratification, but was obliged to swallow the compliment. Several slaves stood around the table with gullahs of cool water,—the only beverage permitted; others had large fans to keep away the flies. After we had performed our very necessary ablutions, smoked a pipe, and taken coffee, the bey dismissed his court and attendants, and we had a long *tête-à-tête* upon various subjects. Although evidently a brave man, he finds the difficulties of his situation trying and embarrassing. Having no trusty friend or confidant near him, he seemed glad of an opportunity of disburdening his grievances before a stranger, to whom there would be no

disgrace or humiliation in expressing his fears and difficulties. 'I have few or no friends here,' said he, 'and many enemies. It is difficult to satisfy the demands of the pasha, and not oppress the people. The government at Alexandria are never content with the amount of the revenue; and yet are enraged if any complaints reach them, although they are the consequence of their own exorbitant demands; but I hope God will give me good luck, and enable me to keep my place to the satisfaction of my master.' We conversed about the province; his manner of managing the Arabs, with the statistics of the country; the affairs of the pasha (to whom he seems very much attached, and hopes to see him master of St. Petersburg, or, at all events, of the recent acquisitions of that power from the Ottoman empire); the war with the sultan; the conquest of these provinces; his own military exploits and valour; and the antiquities which are the object of my journey."

Our countryman spent three days here, and tells us:—

"March 2. This morning the bey sent for me as before, and kept me till after dinner, when I started for Shendi in his own boat, which he had the goodness to lend me. He invited me to make a longer stay, but I had no time to lose. These three days, however, have not been altogether mispent, as I have obtained some important information. I complained to the bey yesterday, that, on account of the prejudices of the people, we were unable to draw any of the costumes of the country. The bey very coolly declared, that whoever dared to refuse, he would cut off his head! Though this summary order was coolly received in the divan, we did not hesitate to avail ourselves of it, and immediately set to work, and drew the portraits of all the dignitaries of consequence at his court. I have already referred the reader to the portraits of Melek Nazr ed Deen, Sheakh Beshir, and Sheakh Seyd. Some of them were very reluctant, in spite of all our persuasion, particularly one native prince called Mousa. His likeness, taken by Signor B., is admirable, the colour correct, and his figure is the finest specimen of manly beauty I have seen in this country. His breast has somewhat of a projection, a peculiarity I have often observed in Upper Nubia. It is considered a great deformity, and those who have it often submit to a most painful operation for its removal. Mousa, when my artist had finished his portrait, begged the bey to treat him as a man, and not shew him like a beast. He is the son of a melek, but now serves as a groom. He is famous for his courage and dexterity in the use of the sabre. To use their own exaggerated Oriental language, he is capable of killing 100 men in battle. In our tent, yesterday, we took the figure and costume of a Bishareen boy, about eighteen, whose father, a powerful sheakh, had attempted to excite a revolt against the pasha. Not being successful, he fled, and his son was detained in prison until the father paid a fine of 250 camels. By way of a jest, though a barbarous one, which I should not have allowed had I known of it, the bey and his officers told the poor boy that we were to cut off his head, being Turks deputed from Cairo for that special purpose. He sat down on the ground in the attitude represented, with his head turned on one side, and remained motionless, in the same position, nearly three quarters of an hour. We remarked that we had never had a subject who sat so patiently. When we had finished, we told him he might get up, making him, at the same time, a small

present; when, with a look of bewildered delight, he told us how differently he expected to have been treated, and that he had been awaiting every moment the stroke of the sabre. In the evening, when we were with the bey, he sent for the poor youth, and frightened him again by telling him that, by virtue of the drawing we had made, we had a magical power over him, and should transport him with us into our own country. He opened his mouth aghast, asked every body if it were true, and seemed struck with horror at the idea of never again seeing his native deserts. He addressed his inquiries particularly to Sheakh Seyd, who, as chief of the Ababdes, he did not think capable of deceiving him; but I verily believe many of the meleks and chiefs present, who affected to join in the laugh, really had doubts and misgivings that such, in truth, was the necromantic power of our pencils, and particularly of the camera lucida, with which I drew several of them. My artist took the bey's likeness, at his own particular desire; I conceive, for one of his favourites. He was very well satisfied with the representation of his figure, rich costume, his sword and accoutrements, and of the fierceness of his mustachios; but he did not understand the shading, and begged my artist 'to take away those black things.' Before leaving Makkarif, the bey shewed me round the indigo and hide manufactories belonging to the government. I parted from him with some regret, for he is decidedly the best Turk I have ever known; and it was a great pleasure for a few days to meet with such courtesy in these wild regions of interior Africa.

"The number of peasants, merchants, Arabs, and other residents, so far as I have been able to learn, may be estimated (including their families) at 30,000: this is independent of the Bishareen and other desert tribes who pay their tribute here. The number of sakaes may appear small in comparison to the extent of the cultivation and the number of the inhabitants; but, it may be remarked, that a great proportion of the arable land in this province is irrigated by the inundation of the Nile and by manual labour. Besides, the peasants, as well the wandering tribes, subsist in a great measure by their flocks and by their camels, which are bred in great numbers, and of the finest quality, and sent to Cairo. Many also are sold here to the merchants and carriers of this place; also to those of Shendi and Sennaar. The price of a strong, ordinary camel is about ten or twelve dollars; of a dromedary, ten to thirty dollars. For several years the government have sent to Cairo from 1500 to 2000 hides. This year the pasha has required 20,000. These hides are prepared with lime, salt, and the pod of the mimosa. The pasha has also tried the sugar-cane, which flourishes luxuriantly in the islands, though the people have not yet acquired any skill in the manufacture of it. There is a small sugar-house, but of the rudest construction. The canes are placed between two rollers, turned by oxen, which squeeze out the juice. The peasants themselves make a coarse kind of linen cloth, which may be called fine canvass, but seldom deserves a better name.

"The Bishareen pay their tribute to this government. They occupy the territory, and are generally supposed to be descendants of the ancient Troglodytes; but there is a name sculptured on the walls of Thebes of a captured people called Sharim, which, with the Coptic article Pi, makes Pisharim or Bisharim. Suakim, the capital, is fifteen days' journey from this place, on which road water is found every

day and a half: its inhabitants are called Edherbi and Hadendoah. Besides these, the Bishareen have other subordinate divisions, as the Amarrah and the Benishamah. As I have before stated, they are the most uncivilised of the Arab tribes, if they can be called Arabs, when they speak a language without any Arabic words, and lay no claim to Arabian descent. Their features are often striking, but their manner of dressing their hair, making it bushy and prominent both in front and behind, and often shaving it a little, gives them a savage appearance. Their dress generally consists of folds of linen of the country, often ragged and dirty, but always put on in a graceful manner, not unlike the ancient Greek drapery. War and plunder seem to be their element, and they are accused of being treacherous and deceitful: they are addicted also to petty theft. Many are poor in the extreme; some few, rich and powerful, living luxuriously, as they deem it, on camels' flesh and milk. The principal persons at Makkarif tell me that they count 200,000 houses or tents; but, notwithstanding the vast extent of their territory, this must be an exaggeration. The government finds always great difficulty in collecting their tribute. 'We generally send,' said the bey, 'two soldiers at a time. If they are murdered it is of no great consequence! for two men it would be absurd to lay waste a whole province; but if we sent twenty or thirty, and they were destroyed, it would create great alarm, and be a serious loss out of my small force of 400 cavalry. Once,' said he, with an air of triumph, 'I was there with a large retinue, when a greatly superior number of Bishareen attacked us during the night, as is always their custom. Nine of my men fled at the first onset, and falling into the hands of the enemy were immediately massacred. We resisted and escaped, but it caused great terror among my troops. Soon after we avenged the death of my nine brave fellows in our usual manner. We enticed to this place many of the Bishareen engaged in this affair by a promise of pardon; then we enclosed them in one of our fortified houses and put them to death.' Some divisions of this tribe, who are almost quite independent, often plunder the caravans and small villages, and carry off cattle and other property; and they sometimes extend their predatory incursions as far as Dongolah. The Ababdes are divided principally into two tribes, the Maleykab, from Esneh to Assuan, and the Hashibani, from Assuan to Kash Kosseer. They are a fine race of men, and wear their hair in ringlets hanging behind their heads, and at the sides, nearly to their shoulders. Sometimes, but very rarely, their hair is bushy in front like the Bishareen. Their dress of coarse linen is always folded around them with the same graceful elegance. This tribe is much less numerous than the Bishareen, but they have the character of being braver. The number of their houses and tents was stated to me by their chief, Sheakh Sayd, at 50,000. During the conquest of this country, and on other occasions, they have been of great service to the pasha, who therefore levies no direct tribute, except from such as have allotments of land and sakkeas, who pay for them like the peasants of the Nile."

Of the Arab tribes higher up we learn:—
"The meleks were the only aristocracy of the country. Each, before the pasha's domination, took four wives; and many, regardless of the limit set by the Koran, even more. They tell me that Melek Tumbol, of Argo, has had twenty-one.* Their wives, who are always daughters of meleks, pass their time in the harem; for it is considered a degradation to have a son by a slave, or woman of low rank, or to allow their wives to work. The pasha, by depressing the meleks, has diminished, but not destroyed, this system of slavery; and at some future period it may be the means of exciting a combined effort to expel his descendants. Serving, as some of the Shageea slaves do in his army, they have, of course, learned the use of fire-arms, and could turn them against their oppressors. There are 500 of the Shageea tribe in the pay of the pasha. But, perhaps aware that the security of their dominion over this country consists in their discipline, and the superiority of their arms, the government have not admitted into their army any of the Arab tribes of this vicinity; and these Shageeas being at a distance, near Habeesh, little danger is to be apprehended from them now: indeed, so long as they are so far distant with the army, they may be considered as hostages for the fidelity of their province. Hourshid Bey, the governor of Sennaar, besides the 500 Shageea slaves, has also under his command nearly 5000 men, consisting of Mograbins, from Lower Egypt, Fellaheen, and Turka. With this force, he extends every campaign the pasha's dominion on the Blue River, and sends every year never less than 500, and often as many as 3000 slaves, the trophies of his victories, to Cairo. Before the conquest of Ismael Pasha, Shendy, I understand, was rather more populous: but this was the town where that unfortunate prince met his fate. The circumstances connected with this event, according to the information I obtained here, differ, in some respects, from those which have been stated by other travellers. It might seem that the accounts obtained by those who passed immediately after his death were likely to be most correct: but often the contrary is the case; for events in the course of time have new light thrown upon them, and the rashness and imprudence of Ismael Pasha were naturally glossed over at the moment. He came from Sennaar to Shendy with about ten mamelukes. The Meleks Nimr (tiger), of Shendy, and Messayad, of Metammah (a eunuch who once belonged to Sultan Foddal, of Darfour), came to pay their homage to him. The pasha demanded of Nimr a subsidy, to the value of 100,000 dollars, in money, slaves, and cattle; Nimr, in no very polite terms, declared his inability; when the pasha, in a fit of passion, struck him with his pipe. Nimr, enraged at this insult, was on the point of drawing his sabre and attacking the pasha; but Melek Messayad pacified him, advising him, in the dialect of the Bishareen, which they both understood, to delay his revenge until evening, and at present to promise a compliance with the exorbitant requisition. The two chiefs, after leaving the presence, ordered their slaves and people to prepare a quantity of wood. The Khasnar Dar Bey of the pasha observed these preparations, and was overheard by an Arab advising the prince to effect his escape: but the latter, with the pride peculiar to the Turks, replied, 'Am I not a pasha? and what Arab dare touch me?' A few hours after dark, they surrounded the house with fagots, set fire to them, and the unfortunate prince and the mamelukes who were with him perished in the flames. Nimr fled up the country, married a daughter of a king of Habeesh, and is still the inveterate enemy of the Turks. The same night Melek Messayad fell upon the few troops that were stationed at Metammah, and massacred them."

* The shekhs and meleks generally profess to be very religious, and observant of the laws of the Koran; but

when they want another wife, and have already four, they divorce one of their old ones.

Messayad was afterwards killed by the Defter Dar Bey, as were also a great number of the Shendyans, suspected to be connected with the murder of the prince. In consequence of this event, the government have made Metammah, on the opposite side of the river, their chief place of residence, and several of the inhabitants of Shendy have removed thither. Metammah, situated one hour's walk from the river, is a much more desolate-looking place than even Shendy. You see streets full of sand, scarcely an inhabitant, no *brio*, no bazaar: the houses are common hovels. Such are the present capitals of Ethiopia.

"I have often (adds our author, speaking of their customs) seen the Arabs of the desert place two or three pounds of mutton fat on their heads, and walk on till the sun had melted it, when not only the head and face were covered with the liquid grease, but it flowed in streams down their backs. They consider their different ointments as particularly conducive to health, especially after fatigue. There is an old custom still kept up in the country. When an Arab or Turk arrives in a village after a fatiguing day's journey, he generally gets some of the female slaves I have spoken of at Shendy, to rub him for half an hour all over with this ointment. It is very pleasant and refreshing, cooling and softening to the skin, which has been burnt and dried up by the scorching winds of the desert."

We copy a characteristic anecdote or two:—
"We left Shendy later than we intended, having been delayed by the following little difficulties. I had engaged from the government six camels, with three drivers, of which they only sent me one driver. As I found I should lose a day, or perhaps two, in going back to Metammah, and there were said to be none procurable here, I was forced to yield this point. I had also stipulated for a Turkish soldier, who accompanied Cailliaud, and for a habeer (guide), and had agreed to give twelve piastres per day for these two persons. Before setting out, I asked the soldier, 'where was the habeer?' 'I am the habeer,' he said. 'Where, then,' asked I, 'is the soldier?' 'Oh,' said he, 'I am soldier and habeer both.'"

They fancy that the Europeans are laden with treasures dug out of their ruins; and Mr. H. says:—

"It were endless to enumerate the ridiculous stories which the Arabs relate of these fancied discoveries. I will, however, mention one or two, as characteristic. On our return from the colossal statues in the Island of Argo, to the house of Melek Tumbol, one of his cash-keepers asked me if we had found any gold; and he stated as a fact to a crowd of Arabs in the room (swearing by his beard and the prophet), that at a ruin called Dendera, in Egypt, he accompanied two Englishmen, who obtained an immense treasure. The devil refused it until they should give him a water melon, to allay his thirst. The Englishmen then sent him all the way to Kennah for the melon, and that as soon as the devil smelt the fine odour of the fruit, gold came down like rain. This the man declared he had seen with his own eyes, and all the Arabs implicitly believed him. At Gibel el Birkel, the natives conceived that my excavations were made only to find gold; and they supposed me less fortunate, or less clever, than the last European, a noble lord, who visited those ruins, who was stated to have found such a quantity, in the form of a granite lion, that he was obliged to have a boat from Dongolah to carry it down to Egypt."

"I saw this evening a number of slaves going

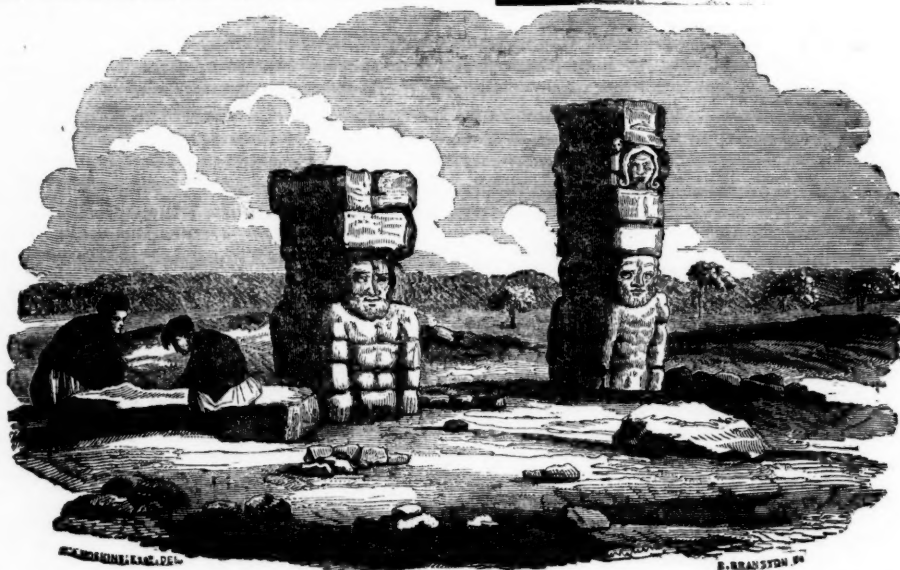
o Cairo. The manner in which they were clogged, to prevent their escaping or rebelling against their owners, was disgraceful and revolting in the extreme. Each slave wore a clog made of a wooden pole, four feet long, with a collar, of a triangular form, large enough to admit his head: this triangular collar rests upon their shoulders, and is so contrived with straps that it is impossible for them to throw it off. When they walk, they are obliged to carry it before them; and at night their hands are tied to the centre of the pole, and their feet to the bottom of it. The owners of the slaves shewed me, with the malicious grin of fiends, the effects of the cords, and the weight of the machine on the hands, necks, and legs of their victims. They confessed that they were often obliged to free their slaves entirely from this torture, in order to preserve their lives: I saw several in this situation, who seemed to have suffered severely from being previously loaded with this machine. I attempted to reason with one of the owners; and urged, that, as he was obliged to leave them free occasionally, and run the risk of their escaping, he might as well do so always, and that he would find it his interest, as many actually died from this treatment. I told him he ought, as a good Mahometan, to adopt a more humane method of securing them. He told me, that he could not liberate them all at once; for they had recently threatened that, if ever they had the opportunity, they would kill him, and dye a red *tarboush* (Turkish cap) with his blood. The slaves understood this part of our discourse, and some laughed at this expression; but in general they appeared in a dreadful state of apathy and torpor, quite indifferent to the interest they saw me take in their situation. They were all negroes, with high

cheek-bones, triangular faces, eyes sunk deep in the head, thick lips, complexion a cold bluish black colour, an expression heavy and unpleasant, and without a spark of talent in their countenances. They were continually demanding fire. After the extreme heat of the day, when the sun has set, there follows a degree of cold, which, though slight, and to me most agreeable, is no doubt felt severely by the slaves, who are quite naked, and accustomed to a hotter climate; and they feel it more sensitively, having been exposed the greater part of the day to the burning sun."

Having this week confined ourselves to the living parts of the subject, we shall say nothing of the ruins, inscriptions, historical investigations, &c. &c., till our next *Gazette*; and for the present encroach only so far upon it as to insert one of the woodcuts, and the author's account of it:—

"March 11.—We left this morning at seven, and reached the ruins of Abou Naga at nine. The two square pillars which remain of this temple are very curious. On each side is a representation of what is generally called a figure of Typhon, above which is the head of Isis or Athor. These figures are very much injured, but the style is extremely bold and decidedly very ancient. The people above Meroe, says Diodorus, worship Isis and Pan, and also Hercules and Zeus. This Typhonian figure is called Pthah by many, and considered as an immediate emanation from Jupiter. We have here two more divinities to add to the Ethiopian list. I use this name, for of all the antiquities existing in the valley of the Nile, these have the most ancient appearance. The drawing will give an exact idea of the style of the sculpture. The reader will remark that this is no

effort of a feeble and corrupt taste, no imitation of a foreign (Egyptian) style, but the spirited work of an early period, when the productions of art would naturally be more remarkable for force and vigour than for exquisite or delicate finish. There are no hieroglyphics, nor any appearance of there ever having been any, which may be considered another proof of their great antiquity: an edifice in which they are absent must either be of the most ancient or most modern date—and certainly this latter description cannot belong to the present structures. The style has evidently the stamp of originality, and I therefore think it may be considered a fragment of perhaps one of the most ancient temples which has ever been erected in honour of the two great divinities, Isis and Typhon, or rather, I should say, of the two principles of good and evil existing in the world; for Isis, the Ceres of the Greeks, is a type of that benevolent care of the Deity which furnishes men with the fruits of the earth: and she is worshipped under the form of a woman, emblematical of the maternal fondness of the great divinity. Under that view, she is sometimes represented with her son, the infant Horus, on her knees, as the source of the multiplication and increase of the human race. The figure which, in deference to the general opinion, I have called Typhon, has been considered by many to be that of Pthah, from the circumstance of almost similar representations having been found with the name of that divinity in hieroglyphics; but, in the absence of any inscription to decide the question of what this figure has been, I must confess that I conceive it not impossible that it may be the Hercules of the Ethiopians."



TEMPLE OF ABOU NAGA.

The History of the Assassins. Derived from Oriental Sources. By the Chevalier Joseph Von Hammer. Translated from the German, by Oswald Charles Wood, M.D. 12mo. pp. 240. London, 1835. Smith and Co.

We have long desired to see a translation of this sterling and interesting historical work of

Von Hammer; and now rejoice to have it so ably executed by Dr. Wood. The researches of the original author have gone to an amazing extent; and it is gratifying to find, their fruits in such an episode of Oriental history, and all within the space of one small volume.

The annals of the Assassins might well be

considered as a vast romance; but their truth are attested by too many horrid crimes and by the prodigious influence they possessed on the fate of nations, to leave the slightest question of their authenticity. Here they are faithfully traced; and from them very important political lessons may be derived, from the times of

Sabians and Pythagoreans of old, to the later days of Black Knights, Jesuits, Illuminati, Jacobins, Carbonari, Freemasons, Unions, and other associations, combining in secret for purposes only known to the initiated, and directed to objects which have a fearful influence on the destinies of mankind. By analogy the facts and reasoning in this extraordinary exposition may readily be applied to other countries and periods; while of itself we may justly say in the words of the author:—

"Of all events, the account of which, since history has been written, has descended to us, one of the most singular and wonderful is the establishment of the dominion of the Assassins—that *imperium in imperio*, which, by blind subjection, shook despotism to its foundations; that union of impostors and dupes which, under the mask of a more austere creed and severer morals, undermined all religion and morality; that order of murderers, beneath whose daggers the lords of nations fell; all-powerful, because, for the space of three centuries, they were universally dreaded, until the den of ruffians fell with the khaliphate, to whom, as the centre of spiritual and temporal power, it had at the outset sworn destruction, and by whose ruins it was itself overwhelmed. The history of this empire of conspirators is solitary, and without parallel; compared to it, all earlier and later secret combinations and predatory states are crude attempts or unsuccessful imitations."

After a general view of the state of the empires of the East, and the reigning families of the Omniades, Abbassides, Fatimites, &c., Mr. Von Hammer proceeds to his more immediate matter, and says:—

"The Assassins are but a branch of the Ismailites; and these latter, not the Arabs generally, as descendants of Ishmael, the son of Hagar, but a sect existing in the bosom of Islamism, and so called from the Imam Ismail, the son of Jafer."

He then treats of the foundation and progress of Islamism and its various sects; particularly of the *Imamie* (i. e. the tenets of the twelve Imams), from which the Ismailite was a division. In the last (the ninth) degree of their initiation the disciples of this vile school were

"Perfectly enlightened as to the superfluity of all prophets and apostles, the non-existence of heaven and hell, the indifference of all actions, for which there is neither reward nor punishment either in this world or the next; and thus was he matured for the ninth and last degree, to become the blind instrument of all the passions of unbridled thirst of power. To believe nothing and to dare all, was, in two words, the sum of this system, which annihilated every principle of religion and morality, and had no other object than to execute ambitious designs with suitable ministers, who, daring all and honouring nothing, since they consider every thing a cheat and nothing forbidden, are the best tools of an infernal policy. A system, which, with no other aim than the gratification of an insatiable lust of dominion, instead of seeking the highest of human objects, precipitates itself into the abyss, and mangle itself, is buried amidst the ruins of thrones and altars, the horrors of anarchy, the wreck of national happiness, and the universal execration of mankind."

The order of the Assassins was founded by Hassan Sabah, whose personal story, from youth upwards, till he established himself in power as the head of this mighty conspiracy, is one of wonder.

"Nothing is true and all is allowed," was the groundwork of the secret doctrine; which, however, being imparted but to few, and concealed under the veil of the most austere religionism and piety, restrained the mind under the yoke of blind obedience, by the already adopted rein of the positive commands of Islamism, the more strictly, the more temporal submission and devotion were sanctioned, by eternal rewards and glory. Hitherto, the Ismailites had only masters and fellows; namely, the Dais or emissaries, who, being initiated into all the grades of the secret doctrine, enlisted proselytes; and the Refik, who, gradually intrusted with its principles, formed the great majority. It was manifest to the practical and enterprising spirit of Hassan, that, in order to execute great undertakings with security and energy, a third class would also be requisite, who, never being admitted to the mystery of atheism and immorality, which snap the bonds of all subordination, were but blind and fanatical tools in the hands of their superiors; that a well organised political body needs not merely heads but also arms, and that the master required not only intelligent and skilful fellows, but also faithful and active agents: these agents were called Fedavie (i. e. the self-offering or devoted); the name itself declares their destination. How they afterwards, in Syria, obtained that of the Hashishin or Assassins, we shall explain hereafter, when we speak of the means employed to animate them to blind obedience and fanatical self-devotion. Being clothed in white, like the followers of Mokanna, three hundred years before, in Transoxana, and, still earlier, the Christian Neophytes, and, in our own days, the pages of the sultan, they were termed Mobeyese, the white, or, likewise, Mohammere the red, because they wore, with their white costume, red turbans, boots, or girdles, as in our own day do the warriors of the prince of Lebanon, and at Constantinople the Janissaries and Bostangis as body-guard of the seraglio. Habited in the hues of innocence and blood, and of pure devotion and murder, armed with daggers (cultelliferi), which were constantly snatched forth at the service of the grand-master, they formed his guard, the executioners of his deadly orders, the sanguinary tools of the ambition and revenge of this order of Assassins.

"The flat part of a country is always commanded by the more mountainous, and the latter by the fortresses scattered through it. To become masters of these by stratagem or force, and to awe princes either by fraud or fear, and to arm the murderer's hand against the enemies of the order, was the political maxim of the Assassins. Their internal safety was secured by the strict observance of religious ordinances; their external, by fortresses and the poniard. From the proper subjects of the order, or the profane, was only expected the fulfilment of the duties of Islamism, even of the most austere, such as refraining from wine and music: from the devoted satellites was demanded blind subjection and the faithful use of their daggers. The emissaries, or initiated, worked with their heads, and led the arms in execution of the orders of the Sheikh, who, in the centre of his sovereignty, tranquilly directed, like an animating soul, their hearts and poniards to the accomplishment of his ambitious projects."

The various gradations of rank and power under him are detailed, and the whole extraordinary organisation explained. Hassan's "greatest policy (as is well stated) consisted in designing his doctrine of infidelity and im-

morality, not for the ruled, but only for the rulers; in subjecting the tensely reined and blind obedience of the former, to the equally blind but unbridled despotism of the second; and thus he made both serve the aim of his ambition,—the former by remuneration, the latter by the full gratification of their passions. Study and the sciences were, therefore, the lot of only a few who were initiated. For the immediate attainment of their objects, the order was less in need of heads than arms; and did not employ pens, but daggers, whose points were everywhere, while their hilts were in the hand of the grand-master."

At length:—

"So great was the dread in which princes held the order, they did not dare to refuse them the strong places of their own countries, and preferred destroying them, to abandoning them for citadels of the power and sovereignty of the Assassins."

Hassan Sabah survived the most faithful of his disciples, and his nearest relations, to whom the ties of attachment and consanguinity seemed to secure the highest rights to the succession to the sovereignty. His nephew and grand-prior in Syria, Abulfettah, had fallen by the sword of the enemy; Hossein Kaini, grand-prior in Kuhistan, under the dagger of a murderer, probably Ostad, one of the two sons of Hassan; and Ostad and his brother under the hand of their own father, who seemed to revel even in spilling his own blood. Without proof of the measure of guilt, he sacrificed them, not to offended justice, but apparently to mere love of murder, and that terrific policy, by virtue of which the order snapped all ties of relationship or friendship, to bind the more closely those of impiety and slaughter. Ostad (i. e. the master), probably so called because the public voice had destined him as the successor of his father as grand-master, was put to death on the mere suspicion of being concerned in Hossein's murder; and his brother, because he had drunk wine: the former, probably, because he had, by his crime, which was without orders, interfered with his father's prerogative; the latter, because he had infringed one of the least essential laws of Islamism, but whose strict observance was part of the system of the order.

In the execution of his two sons, the grand-master gave the profane and the initiated a sanguinary example of avenged disobedience to the ordinance of outward worship, and the rules of internal discipline; but, probably, besides this apparent motive, the son of Sabah was urged by another, to the destruction of his race; possibly, his sons, disgusted with the long reign of their father, were expecting with impatience to succeed him; it is probable, that on that account he deemed them incompetent, as not having learned to obey, or as being wanting in the necessary princely qualities; or, it is probable, that he set them aside, in order to avoid sinking the order into a dynasty by inheritance, and that the succession of grand-masters might be determined by the nearest relationship of mind and character, irreligion and impiety. Human nature is not usually so diabolical, that the historian must, among several doubtful motives to an action, always decide for the worst; but, in the founder of this society of vice, the establisher of the murderous order of the Assassins, the most horrible is the most likely."

The founder lived to the age of ninety, and was succeeded, during fourteen years, by a yet more bloody tyrant, Kiabusurgomid; of whose ferocity, and the devoted fanaticism of his

followers, the following quotation is a terrible evidence:—

"The less the designs of the Ismailites prospered by the sword, the more successful and persevering were they with the dagger; and, however dangerous to the order the times might be, they were not the less so to its most powerful adversaries. A long series of great and celebrated men, who, during the grand-mastership of Kiabursugomid, fell by the poniards of his Fedavi, signalled the bloody annals of his reign; and, as formerly, according to the fashion of oriental historians, there follows, at the end of each prince's reign, a catalogue of great statesmen, generals, and literati, who have either adorned it by their lives, or troubled it with their death: so, in the annals of the Assassins, is found the chronological enumeration of celebrated men of all nations who have fallen the victims of the Ismailites, to the joy of their murderers, and the sorrow of the world. The first, under the grand-mastership of Kiabursugomid, was Cassim-ed-dewlet Aksonkor Bourshi, the brave prince of Mossul, feared alike by the Crusaders and the Assassins, as one of their deadliest enemies. Having fought his last battle with the former, near Maarra Mesrin, he was, on the first Sunday after his return, attacked by eight Assassins, disguised as dervishes, as he was in the act of seating himself on his throne in the mosque at Mossul: protected by a coat of mail and his natural bravery, he defended himself against the wretches, three of whom he stretched at his feet; but before his retinue could hasten to his assistance, he received a mortal wound, from the effects of which he expired the same day. The remaining Assassins were sacrificed to the vengeance of the populace, with the exception of one young man from the village of Katarnash, in the mountains near Eras, whose mother, on hearing of Aksonkor's murder, dressed and adorned herself for joy at the successful issue of the attempt, in which her son had devoted his life; but, on his returning alone, she cut off her hair, and blackened her face, with the deepest sorrow, that he had not shared the murderers' honourable death. To such lengths did the Assassins carry their point of honour, and what may be termed their Spartanism. Moineddin, the vizier of Sultan Sandjar, was also murdered by an Assassin, hired by his enemy, Derkesina, the vizier of Mohammed, and a friend of the Ismailites. In order the better to attain his object, the ruffian entered his service as a groom. One day, as the vizier went into the stable to inspect his horses, the false groom appeared before him without clothes, in order to avoid all suspicion of carrying concealed weapons, although he had hidden his dagger in the mane of the horse, whose bridle he was holding. The horse reared, and under pretence of quieting him with caresses, he snatched his poniard, and stabbed the vizier. If Bourshi, Prince of Mossul stood on the list of the victims of the Ismailites solely because he was the rival of their power, and an obstacle to their greatness, we shall not be surprised at finding the name of Busi, the Prince of Damascus, by whose orders the Vizier Masdeghani, and six thousand Assassins, had been massacred. The slightest pretence was sufficient to cause the blood of princes to flow beneath their stilettos; how much more when their own called, as in this latter case, for revenge. To escape was beyond the power of prudence, as they watched for years for time, place, and opportunity. Busi, the son of Togteghin, was, in the second year after the massacre, attacked

by its avengers, and received two wounds, one of which healed immediately; the other was, however, mortal the following year."

Kiabursugomid, by a great error, made the dignity hereditary in his son Mohammed, who, in turn, was succeeded by his son, Hassan II.; and he, after creating a wide and dangerous schism, by claiming to be himself Imam, and not, as heretofore, the Imam's precursor, was slain by his son, Mohammed II., who rose to be grand-master on the murder of his father. The next was Hassan III.; the next Alaeddin Mohammed III.; and the last Rokneddin, who, together with his infamous instruments, was destroyed by the Mongol conquerors of the countries, where they held sway during a hundred and seventy years.* Of their character, during this period, we select a few instances:

"Two years after the death of Conrad marquis of Montferrat and Tyre, and that of Rashideddin Sinan, Henry count of Champagne, passed, on his journey to Armenia, near the territory of the Assassins; the grand-prior, the successor of Rashideddin Sinan, sent deputies to welcome him, and to invite him to visit his fortress on his return. The count accepted the invitation, and came; the grand-prior hastened to meet him, and received him with great honours. He took him to several castles and fortresses, and brought him at last to one having very lofty turrets. On each look-out stood two guards dressed in white, consequently initiated in the secret doctrines. The grand-prior told the count that these men obeyed him better than the Christians did their princes; and giving a signal, two of them instantly threw themselves from the top of the tower, and were dashed to pieces at its foot. 'If you desire it,' said the grand-prior to the astonished count, 'all my whites shall throw themselves down from the battlements in the same way.' The latter declined, and con-

* "The conquering power of Jengis Khan, thundering in the distance, had passed innocuously over their heads, but under the third of his successors, Mangu Khan, the whirlwind of Mongols swept over the Eastern world, and, in its desolating progress, carried away, along with the khalifat, and other dynasties, that of the Assassins. In the year 592 of the Hegira (A.D. 1198), when the seven planets were in conjunction, in the sign Libra, as they had been a century before in that of Pisces, all Asia was trembling in expectation of the end of the world, which astrologers had declared was to happen, the first time by a deluge, and the second by hurricanes and earthquakes. But if, the first time, a swollen mountain torrent drowned only a few pilgrims, in order not to put the prophecy to the blush; and the second, there was so little wind on the appointed night, that lights burnt freely in the open air on the top of the minarets without being extinguished; nevertheless, at both periods political revolutions came to the help of the astrologers' predictions, who had interpreted the conjunction of the planets as indicating physical changes. * * * Mangu had already, some time before, issued the command to Hulaku to exterminate all the Ismailites, and not to spare even the infant at his mother's breast; and immediately upon Rokneddin's departure, the sanguinary task was commenced, which had only been delayed till Kirdkuh, and the remainder of the castles of the Assassins in Kuhistan and Syria, should have fallen. He sent one of his viziers to Kaswin, to put to death, indiscriminately, Rokneddin's wives, children, brothers, sisters, and slaves; only two relations, females apparently, of Rokneddin were selected from this devoted band, not for mercy, but to be the victims of the princess Bulghan Khatun's private revenge, her father Jagatai having bled by the Assassins' daggers. A command, similar to that given to the governor of Kaswin, was issued to the viceroy of Khorassan. He assembled the captive Ismailites, and twelve thousand of these wretched creatures were slaughtered without distinction of age. Warriors went through the provinces, and executed the fatal sentence without mercy or appeal. Wherever they found a disciple of the doctrine of the Ismailites, they compelled him to kneel down, and then cut off his head. The whole race of Kiabursugomid, in whose descendants the grand-mastership had been hereditary, were exterminated. The 'devoted to murder' were not now the victims of the order's vengeance, but that of outraged humanity. The sword was against the dagger, and the executioner destroyed the murderer. The seed sown for two centuries was now ripe for the harvest, and the field ploughed by the Assassin's dagger was reaped by the sword of the Mongol. The crime had been terrible, but no less terrible was the punishment."

ferred that he could not calculate upon such obedience in his servants. After staying some time at the castle, he was, at his departure, loaded with presents; and the grand-prior told him, on taking leave, that by means of these faithful servants he removed the enemies of the order. By this horrible example of blind submission, the prior shewed that he trod exactly in the footsteps of the founder of the order, who had given the ambassador of Melekshah a similar proof of the devotion of his faithful followers. Jelaeddin Melekshah, sultan of the Seljuks, having sent an ambassador to him to require his obedience and fealty, the son of Sabah called into his presence several of his initiated. Beckoning to one of them, he said, 'Kill thyself!' and he instantly stabbed himself; to another, 'Throw thyself down from the rampart!' the next instant he lay a mutilated corpse in the moat. On this, the grand-master turning to the envoy, who was unnerved with terror, said, 'In this way am I obeyed by seventy thousand faithful subjects. Be that my answer to thy master.' * * *

"A youth, who was deemed worthy, by his strength and resolution, to be initiated into the Assassin service, was invited to the table and conversation of the grand-master, or grand-prior; he was then intoxicated with henbane (*hashish*), and carried into the garden, when, on awakening, he believed to be Paradise; every thing around him, the hours in particular, contributed to confirm his delusion. After he had experienced as much of the pleasures of Paradise, which the prophet has promised to the blessed, as his strength would admit; after quaffing enervating delight from the eyes of the hours, and intoxicating wine from the glittering goblets, he sunk into the lethargy produced by debility and the opiate; on awakening from which, after a few hours, he again found himself by the side of his superior. The latter endeavoured to convince him, that corporeally he had not left his side, but that spiritually he had been wrapped [rapt] into Paradise, had then enjoyed a foretaste of the bliss which awaits the faithful, who devote their lives to the service of the faith, and the obedience of their chiefs. Thus did these infatuated youths blindly dedicate themselves as the tools of murder, and eagerly sought an opportunity to sacrifice their terrestrial, in order to become the partakers of eternal life. What Mohammed had promised in the Koran to the Moslimin, but which to many might appear a fine dream and empty promises, they had enjoyed in reality; and the joys of heaven animated them to deeds worthy of hell. This imposture could not remain undiscovered; and the fourth grand-master, after unveiling all the mysteries of impiety to the people, probably revealed also to them the joys of Paradise, which could, besides, have but little charms for them, to whom already every thing was permitted on earth. That which hitherto had served as a means to produce pleasure, became now itself an object; and the effects of the intoxication of opium, were the earnest of celestial delight, which they wanted strength to enjoy."

With this we finish; and have only to add, that the general affairs of the East, during several centuries, are greatly illuminated by this account of one of its monstrous afflictions, and heartily recommend the volume to our readers, not only as a valuable companion to the real history of the Khalifates, the Crusades, &c. &c., but a curious associate to the Oriental tales with which our leisure hours have been so much delighted.

A Dictionary of Practical Medicine: comprising General Pathology, the Nature and Treatment of Diseases, Morbid Structures, and the Disorders especially incidental to Climates, to the Sex, and to the different Epochs of Life, &c. &c. By James Copland, M.D., F.R.S. Consulting Physician to Queen Charlotte's Lying-in Hospital: Consulting, and formerly senior, Physician to the Royal Infirmary for Diseases of Children, &c. &c. Parts I. II. and III. London, 1833-5. Longman and Co.

THIS work, notwithstanding only half of it is yet published, has already attained, both in this and in foreign countries, a reputation so distinguished, that nothing we can say is likely to enhance it: we will, however, render it the justice of our tribute. Before we looked more particularly into it, we supposed that it was especially intended for the profession; but, although this may be the author's intention, and though evincing learning of the highest kind, it is so perspicuous throughout, is so devoid of technicalities, and abounds so much in the most interesting matters, admirably arranged, that the well-informed reader, and man of science, will derive the soundest information from its pages—information both philosophical and practical; derived from the most approved sources in the most intellectual quarters of the globe, and from the author's own observation and reflections; and accumulated to an amount truly surprising.

Without adverting to articles on the several specific forms and kinds of disease, wherein their natures and methods of cure are comprehensively, learnedly, and profoundly considered, in connexion with the opinions of the best writers, and with Dr. Copland's extensive experience, we would particularly direct attention to those on age, and its different epochs; on the air-passages and lungs; on the blood; on the brain; on the chest; on climate; on cold; on debility; on the digestive organs; on the causation and forms of disease; on endemic influences; on epidemics, &c.; as being, amongst many others, replete with knowledge of the most accessible and useful kind, and rendered extremely interesting to the general reader as well as to the physician.

The subject of climate is treated in a more philosophical spirit and comprehensive manner than we have hitherto seen it; and the author's opinions are obviously the result of personal observation in warm, as well as in temperate and cold countries. He first considers climate in relation to each of its physical elements or constituents, and states that of any country or district to depend essentially upon the following:—“1st. Upon its position, in respect of distance from the equator; 2d. Upon its elevation above the level of the sea, and its proximity to the shores of the ocean, or the beds of large rivers, &c.; 3d. Upon the geological and mineralogical formations constituting the basis of its soil; 4th. Upon the nature of the soil itself, its cultivation, and the vegetable productions by which it is covered; and, 5th. Upon the prevailing winds or currents of air. Under these heads are comprised a number of subordinate phenomena, giving rise to important modifications in the climate of a district.”

Having illustrated each of the above elements of climatorial influence, and having taken a general view of the subject in respect of Europe and Great Britain, he next considers “climate in relation to the varieties of the species, and the characters of their prevailing diseases.” He afterwards takes a view of the “Food of man in relation to climate, and to the constitution of the different varieties of the species;”

and concludes a most interesting chapter with the following corollaries:—“That the climate of a country should, in a great measure, guide man in his selection of food: those productions which are most abundant around him being most appropriate to the circumstances in which he is placed; and that the nature of his food thus conspires with the climate to modify his constitution, whilst it serves to counteract the rigours of season, and the unwholesome influences to which he is constantly exposed in very hot as well as in very cold countries.”

We next arrive at a chapter on the “Effects produced on the human constitution by change from one climate to another of a very different or opposite kind.” Here Dr. Copland discusses the effects produced in the human frame, firstly, “By change from a cold or temperate, to a warm climate,” and, secondly, “By migration from a warm to a cold or temperate country.” The last chapter is on “Change of climate in the treatment of diseases;” and, under this head, he inquires successively into the climates of different parts of Great Britain, of the south of Europe and shores of the Mediterranean, and of the West Indies and various places in the Atlantic, with reference to diseases of the lungs and of the digestive organs, and to several constitutional and local maladies. Altogether, this article is especially interesting and instructive to those who contemplate change of climate for the removal of chronic diseases.

Dr. Copland has entered into a careful inquiry into the causes and laws of endemic and epidemic diseases. We would recommend these very remarkable articles to the perusal of men of science and legislators. In the article on epidemics he has, in our opinion, completely set at rest the controverted question of infection in respect of devastating epidemics, and shewn that a belief in its agency has existed in all ages. He has also most triumphantly disposed of the sophistry and special pleadings of the non-infectionists, and has taken every inch of ground from under their feet, by proving the “facts” and statements on which they have based their arguments to be altogether false and unfounded in nature. These articles deserve, on account of the very important truths with which they are fraught, the careful consideration of enlightened statesmen of the present day, in all civilised countries. We state this, because facts bearing on the subject have never before been so numerously and coherently marshalled, so methodically arranged, and so ably enforced by strong common sense (conjoined with learning and science) as in these treatises. In proof, we give some of the general inferences at which Dr. Copland arrives:—

“Civilisation exerts a most decided influence in diminishing the frequency and mortality of epidemics, especially those that are fatal or pestilential, as shewn by their history at different epochs, and in different countries holding various grades in the scale of civilisation,—an amelioration evidently due to a better cultivation of the soil; to more extensive commerce, and, consequently, to the less frequent occurrence of great scarcity, and to the improved diet and circumstances of the lower classes, in most European countries, in modern times;—to a favourable change in the manners and habits of the middle and lower classes, particularly in regard to cleanliness, social intercourse, and domestic arrangements; and to better ventilated and improved dwellings;—to superior care in the separation and treatment of the affected; and to stricter measures for the prevention and counteraction of infection.

Owing chiefly to neglect of these circumstances, the lowest classes, and the most wretched amongst these classes, are most frequently attacked—the mortality being also the greatest among them in proportion to the number affected.

“Different ages are not equally affected by epidemics. The exanthematous fevers and hooping cough are most prevalent among, and fatal to, infants and children; influenza, to the aged and debilitated. Continued fevers, in adynamic and malignant forms, attack chiefly persons from fifteen to sixty; but are less fatal to them, than to those of earlier or later ages. Plague most frequently seizes adult persons of early or middle life, and generally males in somewhat greater numbers than females,—probably owing, in part, to more exposure, at this age and of the male sex, to the predisposing causes to infection. Yellow fever attacks chiefly the young and middle-aged; but spares only those who have passed through it in former epidemics. Pestilential cholera, on the other hand, does not so often attack persons about puberty and the meridian of life, as those that are aged and exhausted; and it is usually more fatal in the latter than the former. When increased activity of endemic causes produces epidemic fevers, young children often suffer very remarkably; and the malady assumes, in them, gastric, choleric, or dysenteric forms.

“The mortality from diseases, when they first appear in an epidemic form, is usually very great; but diminishes with the frequency of their recurrence, especially those which have sprung up since the early history of our science, and which are of a contagious or infectious nature. This has been the case with hooping cough, measles, syphilis, small-pox, and may probably be so with pestilential cholera. It is not so manifest with regard to pestilences appearing after long intervals: but these are usually much more fatal at their commencement, or during their early course, and less so at their decline. The first introduction of small-pox, syphilis, &c., among savage tribes, has been as destructive as the pestilences that occurred in the middle ages. This can be explained only as briefly stated above.

“As to the influence of epidemics on population, it may be inferred, that the diminished prevalence of certain maladies, which formerly raged epidemically, is in some respects compensated by the greater frequency of other diseases, formerly of rarer occurrence; or the appearance of some previously but little or not at all known. Since the introduction of vaccination, small-pox has rarely prevailed to a great or fatal extent; but scarlatina, measles, croup, inflammations of the bronchi and lungs, and cerebral infections, have evidently increased. The benefits, therefore, of vaccination may be said to be somewhat overrated. It is remarked by M. Say (Cours complet d'Economie Politique, t. iv. p. 385), ‘When we hear it said, that, by saving a hundred thousand lives, vaccination has added a hundred thousand souls to the population, we may smile at the error, whilst we applaud the discovery.’ M. Villemé has deduced from his researches, that, in populous countries, and particularly in large towns and cities, and in the lower classes, small-pox is fully replaced by an increase of other dangerous diseases; but in districts furnishing sufficient subsistence and scope for increased population, and in the higher classes, this compensation is hardly or but slightly observed. Indeed, all preservative measures against the diseases of infancy act similarly,—

in suppressing one cause of death, we more or less increase the activity of the rest.

"In civilised countries, epidemics, although attended by a very great mortality, only temporarily diminish the population; for it is uniformly observed, that the void is filled up, during the next few years, by a much greater annual average of marriages and births, and by an influx of strangers from other parts, the mortality leaving more abundant means of subsistence for those who have escaped. Destructive epidemics are most frequent in low situations and crowded cities; and epidemics of a slighter kind and commoner form often occur in these and other districts abounding with malaria; and, whether they be aggravated forms of the usual epidemics, or infectious fevers, &c., they all indirectly tend to augment the number of marriages and births, whilst they increase the deaths and diminish the mean duration of life. These results are evidently owing to the more abundant means of sustenance and employment furnished by these places, than by mountainous and barren districts; and to the influx from more healthy parts; the excess of deaths over births being supplied from the latter source. The following statistic return, furnished by M. Bossi, prefect of the department of the Ain, in France, and which he has divided into four zones, according to the nature of the locality, illustrates this statement, and shews—

	1 Death annually to Inhab.	1 Marr. annually to Inhab.	1 Birth annually to Inhab.
In the hilly districts	38.3	179	34.8
Along banks of rivers, &c. ..	26.6	145	28.8
In cultivated grounds	24.6	133	27.5
In marshy places, &c.	20.8	107	26.1."

We will reserve the further notice of this work, on account of its importance, to another week.

Stories of Strange Lands; and Fragments from the Notes of a Traveller. By Mrs. R. Lee (formerly Mrs. T. Edward Bowdich.) 8vo. pp. 366. London, 1835. Moxon.

Most, if not all of these stories having appeared in the "Forget Me Not," "Friendship's Offering," and other periodicals, we are not inclined to revive their recollection by quotation or criticism in our pages; though in their present collected form, after the lapse of years, they are almost as good as new, and the notes and embellishments add very considerably to their interest. We will only say that the volume is an extremely agreeable and entertaining one; and select three illustrations from the "Fragments" with which it is concluded, and which, as far as we know, have not previously been published.

"A rather ludicrous circumstance (says our amiable author) took place while I was on the shores of the Gambia, with some young crocodiles. A gentleman in England had written to his correspondent at Bathurst to send him some crocodile eggs; and, as they are plentiful in that river, they were procured and packed in a small cask with a quantity of sand. On the departure of the next vessel, however, they were forgotten, and were put in a corner till another conveyance presented itself. In the meanwhile the sun daily shot its powerful rays into the warehouse where they were deposited; and one morning a tapping and rustling was heard which could not be accounted for. The owner of the warehouse assembled his servants, and, notwithstanding their reluctance, insisted on a search being made. Package after package was examined, without a step towards

elucidation; when, in a minute after a load had been taken from the top of the crocodile cask, the head of it was raised and split, and up came about a dozen young crocodiles. The negroes, who fancy the great origin of evil to be constantly near them, took this for such a positive proof of his vicinity that they scampered off without ceremony, and left their master to face him alone. A short explanation induced them to return; and the little monsters were destroyed as quickly as possible, their species being far too numerous in that river to admit of mercy to even one. We daily hear stories of the mischief crocodiles have committed; and frequently see negroes who think themselves lucky to have escaped with the loss of a leg or an arm. A very fine Arab colt, belonging to the commandant of Bathurst, was one evening led into the river to wash his legs, and as he came out again, a crocodile nearly bit off his foot just above the fetlock; he instantly fell, and the reptile retired. The death of the colt seemed to be inevitable; but Colonel F— summoned a Moor, who happened to be in the neighbourhood, and, by his judicious and skilful treatment, the bones united, and the animal was saved."

We have often thought it cruel to see beautiful horses killed in England, whenever they meet with an accidental fracture of a limb. Instead of shooting the "high-mettled racer" on such a misfortune happening, we are convinced that, by care and skilful treatment, he might be cured as effectually as the human subject.

The following is a touching picture of Africa, connected with its memories or those who have sojourned in its burning zone:—

"It possesses not the charm of refined and intellectual society; its European inhabitants, with very few exceptions, professedly try to get money as fast as they can, that they may return to England; and yet when they do return, there is no place on earth so dear to them as the land they have left. I could cite various examples of this, but two or three only will serve as a type for the rest. During our second voyage to Africa we met with our dear and excellent friend Mr. M—n; he was dying from consumption, and suffering dreadfully, and yet his pain, his approaching dissolution, were alike forgotten when Mr. Bowdich and myself would sit by his side, and talk of the scenes and adventures we had known together in Fantee. The delicious fruits of Madeira were not to be compared with ours on the coast; the storms were not so grand; the hottest season there was much more intolerable; and the Portuguese servants not half so good as his own man, Black Jack, who used to beg him 'not to take vex, but he wanted a bottle of wine particular;' the invalid's eyes would brighten, the colour rush into his pale lips and cheeks, and a momentary strength would be imparted by these, and a multitude of happy recollections. Certainly no one ever suffered more in Africa than the intrepid Mr. Hutchinson, who died only a few months back at Leith, a victim to a northern, instead of a tropical climate; and yet he never was so animated or enthusiastic, in short so happy, as when recurring to the scenes of his past life. And so it is with myself. I have visited other lands, nay, lived in them, and my path has been broken and rugged. Still more thorny was it in Africa, and yet my thoughts and feelings incessantly recur with indescribable affection to those wild scenes; every minute circumstance vividly rushes before me as if it were the occurrence of yesterday, and my

very dreams are of that magnificent land, where Nature has lavished her treasures with such unlimited profusion. Perhaps these treasures form one of the secret links of that chain which binds us all to her; and her lofty primitive mountains, her mighty rivers, her impenetrable forests, her deep blue sky, where the sun and the moon sail in cloudless majesty, and banish all idea of darkness; the furious grandeur of her tempests; the strange and uncontrolled forms with which her wastes are peopled; her gay, laughing flowers; her juicy and exquisite fruits, which require no toil to bring to perfection; her children, rude and disgusting as many of them are, even form objects of compassionate interest, from the very curse under which they seemed to labour: and all these, perhaps, create feelings in residents which, to those who have always dwelt in civilised nations, are inexplicable. There may be yet another cause, which is the constant excitement afforded by a life which often presents danger, and constantly requires contrivances for comfort and enjoyment."

We conclude with a curious account of animal instinct and sagacity. There were a number of monkeys on board on the voyage home, and Mrs. Lee tells us:—

"The king of our monkeys was, however, the ugliest of all; but certainly nearer to humanity than any I ever met with. I do not mean in formation, but, if I may so express myself, in intellect; for he appeared to think and act, as if he could foresee results, and was more ingenious in mischief than any wild school-boy, who prides himself in being the torment of his companions. We made acquaintance very suddenly, and to me disagreeably, for I had not till then conquered the foolish aversion with which these animals always inspired me. It was a dead calm, the wheel was lashed, and all, save myself, below,—nothing round us but sea and sky; and I had sheltered myself, with a book, in a corner protected from the equatorial sun: suddenly, and without noise, something leaped upon my shoulders, and the tail which encircled my throat convinced me that Mr. Jack was my assailant. My first impulse was to beat him off, in which case I should probably have received some injury; but, fortunately, I sat perfectly still, and, twisting himself round, he brought his face opposite to mine, and stared at me. I endeavoured to speak kindly to him, upon which he grinned and chattered, seated himself on my knees, and carefully examined my hands; he then tried to pull off my rings, and was proceeding to a bite for this purpose, but I gave him some biscuit which happened to lie beside me; and, making a bed for him with a handkerchief, he settled himself comfortably to sleep; and from that moment we were sworn allies."

"The amusement (she continues) afforded to me and others by Jack (a Simia Diana) made him tolerated where his mischievous propensities would otherwise have condemned him to perpetual confinement. He was often banished to an empty hen-coop, but, as this made no impression on him, I always tried to prevent the punishment, which he knew so well, that, when he had done wrong, he either hid himself or sought refuge near me. Much more effect was produced on him by taking him within sight of the panther, who always seemed most willing to devour him. On these occasions I held him up by the tail in front of the cage, but, long before I reached it, knowing where he was going, he pretended to be dead; his eyes were closed quite fast, and every limb was as stiff as if there were no life in him. When

taken away he would open one eye a little, to see whereabouts he might be; but if he caught a glimpse of the cage, it was instantly closed, and he became as stiff as before. He clambered into the hammocks, stole the men's knives, tools, handkerchiefs, and even the night-caps off their heads; all of which went into the sea. When biscuit was toasting between the bars of the caboose, and the dried herbs boiling in the tin mugs, he would rake the former out and carry it away, and take out the latter, and trail it along the planks; if he burnt his paws he desisted for a day or two; and he often regaled the parrots with the biscuit, biting it in small pieces, and feeding them with the utmost gravity. At other times he would knock their cages over, lick up the water thus spilled, eat the lumps of sugar, and pull the bird's tails; and in this manner he killed a beautiful green pigeon belonging to the steward, a specimen of which I never saw in any collection. For this he was flogged and imprisoned three days; and half an hour after he was let out, I met him scampering round the deck with the two blue-faced monkeys on his back, whom he often carried about in this manner. When he thought fit to ride, he would watch behind a cask, on the days the pigs were let loose, dart on to their backs as they passed, dig his nails into them to keep himself on, and the faster they ran, and the more they squealed, the happier he seemed to be. His most important misdemeanours, however, were performed to the injury of his fellow-monkeys, of whom he was very jealous. The smaller ones were very obsequious to him, and when he called them by a peculiar noise, they came, hanging their heads, and looking very submissive; and, in one week, the two admitted below were drowned out of sheer malice. I saw him throw the first overboard, and the poor little thing swam after us some time, but the ship was going too fast for even a rope to be effectually thrown out, in the hope he would cling to it. During one of the calms we so often met with, the men had been painting the outside of the ship, and, leaving their pots and brushes on the deck, went down to dinner; no one was above but myself, the helmsman, and Jack. The latter beckoned and coaxed a black monkey to him; then, seizing him by the neck, took a brush full of white paint, and deliberately covered him with it in every direction. The helmsman and I burst into a laugh, upon which Jack, dropping his victim, flew up the rigging into the main-top, where he stood with his black nose between the bars, peeping at what was going on below. The little metamorphosed beast began licking himself, but the steward being summoned, he washed him with turpentine, and no harm was received. Many attempts were made to catch the rogue aloft, but he eluded all; and when he was driven down by hunger, he watched his opportunity, and sprang from one of the ropes on to my lap, where he knew he should be safe. I fed and interceded for him, so he escaped with only a scolding, which he received with an appearance of shame, which in him was highly ludicrous."

These few examples will suffice to shew how ably our author can describe what she saw in her (for a female) most extraordinary travels; and we trust that her book needs no further recommendation to the public favour it so entirely deserves.

The Doom of Giallo. By J. Boaden, Esq., author of the "Man of Two Lives," &c. 2 vols. 12mo. London, 1835. Macrone.

A TALE founded on a legend mentioned by

Mr. Beckford in his "Sketches of Italy," &c. and wrought into moral inculcations by Mr. Boaden. The fearful fate of the Giallo family is a mixture of predestination and crime; with some curious particulars of foreign theatres, and the amours of leading actresses.

The Poetical Works of John Milton. Edited by Sir Egerton Brydges, Bart., with imaginative illustrations by J. M. W. Turner, R.A. Vol. I. London, 1835. Macrone.

The first Four Books of Milton's Paradise Lost, with Notes, &c., for the use of Schools. By the Rev. J. R. Major, M.A., Head Master of King's College, London. Pp. 218. London, 1835. Fellowes.

METHINKS there be two *Miltons* in the field; and though both may be agreeable to the taste of the times, as neither seem to us to be absolutely necessary, we shall dismiss them in few words. With regard to the first (and the first too of a monthly series of six vols.), it was hardly possible after the labours, researches, and talents of Philips, Toland, Birch, Newton, Peck, Addison, Johnson, Warton, Hayley, Symmons, Todd, Mitford, &c., to produce any novelty; but Sir Egerton has taken pains to recast the materials, and on many points, especially in opposition to Dr. Johnson, to record his own opinions. His life of the poet occupies this *time*. Touching the second, all that need be said is, that it puts forward Bishop Newton's learned notes in a ready form, well calculated to improve youth, not only in the reading of the immortal bard, but in general literature.

Bosworth Field; or, the Fate of a Plantagenet: a Historical Tale. By the Author of "Arthur of Britany," &c. 3 vols. London, 1835. Cochrae and Co.

A TALE of romance and love interwoven with the war of the Roses, and terminating soon after the battle of Bosworth. Not much regard is paid to the historical characters of some of the leading personages, inasmuch as Henry VII. is drawn as a *preux chevalier*, enamoured of Elizabeth, his future queen. The whole narrative, however, is of a description to afford amusement to those to whom the circulating library is the source of all literary relaxation, and who like to follow out the adventures of knights, and damsels, and plots, and fights, and mistakes, and misadventures, of every sort.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

LINNÆAN SOCIETY.

THE Duke of Somerset in the chair.—The president nominated Robert Brown, Esq., Edward Forster, Esq., Dr. Horsfield, and A. B. Lambert, Esq., to be vice-presidents of the society for the present year. There was read an account of the galls found on a species of oak from the shores of the Dead Sea, which have been mistaken for the fruits of certain plants; and a note on the mustard-plant of Scripture, by Mr. Lambert. Also, descriptions of five new species of the genus *pinus*, discovered by Dr. Coulter, in California, by Mr. Don, Lib. L.S.—At the meeting on Tuesday evening, a paper was read, being some observations on the screech-owl, by Mr. Knight; and, also, a memoir on the metamorphosis in the macroura of the class *crustacea*, by J. V. Thompson, deputy-inspector of hospitals. Mr. Christy exhibited a flowering specimen of that very rare British plant, *Liparis Læselii*, from Bottisham Fen, Cambridgeshire.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.

ON Friday week the evening meetings of this

Institution closed, with a lecture on the "History and manufacture of gunpowder," by Mr. Henry Wilkinson. Mr. Wilkinson quoted a variety of authors, ancient and modern, to prove that gunpowder had been known in China and India beyond all periods of investigation, and observed, that in the Gentoo laws, supposed to be coeval with Moses, there was a prohibition of the use of gunpowder and firearms. He then minutely described all the progressive stages of the manufacture of gunpowder, and produced specimens of each ingredient in its various states, and concluded with a variety of interesting experiments, to shew the quantity of permanently elastic fluid generated by the ignition of gunpowder. This he effected by firing gunpowder under water, and collecting the gases in the pneumatic trough. The enormous amount of gunpowder consumed in war he illustrated, by stating the quantities used at the sieges of San Sebastian, Badajoz, and Ciudad Rodrigo; and he concluded with several curious experiments, shewing the effect of fulminating powders on gunpowder. A train of fulminating powder was drawn across another of gunpowder, and the fulminating powder inflamed; which passed with such rapidity over the gunpowder that it merely separated without igniting it. He then sent the flame of fulminating powder through a box full of gunpowder without igniting it; and proved, by other experiments, that the ignition depended on the velocity with which the flame was transmitted. The whole lecture gave very great satisfaction to a numerous auditory. At its conclusion, Mr. Faraday addressed the audience on topics of general interest to the Institution, and of consequence to the scientific world.

OPENING MEETING OF THE INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.

THIS Society had its opening meeting in its rooms, King Street, Covent Garden, on Monday evening; for which occasion the presidents and members of the various scientific bodies, whose pursuits are at all analogous, were invited. The attendance was consequently numerous; and among those present were the Duke of Somerset, Sir Martin A. Shee, Sir Edward Cust, Sir Henry Ellis, Sir Graves Houghton, the Hon. T. Liddell, and W. Cust; Messrs. Vivian, Walker, Wilkins, and Phillips, R.A.; Cockerell and Deering, A.R.A.; Greenough, Capt. Pringle, Dr. N. C. Taylor, Prof. Høyen of Copenhagen, Mr. F. A. Bernhardt, and many other persons, distinguished friends of architecture. Earl de Grey, the president, took the chair at half past 8 o'clock, supported by Messrs. Robertson and Kay, vice-presidents, and by Messrs. Barry, Basevi, Burton, Kendall, Rhodes, and other members of the council. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read, the chairman prefaced the business of the meeting with some introductory observations on the circumstances which gave rise to that assembly, to which we purpose hereafter to refer. Mr. Donaldson, the secretary, then read a paper explanatory of the views and objects of the Institute, which now counted 80 members; 50 fellows of whom were architects of established practice in England. The president then communicated to the meeting that he had a most gratifying letter to read from Sir John Soane; who had not only distinguished himself as an eminent architect, but as a munificent promoter of the art of which he had been so exalted a member. It was to announce a donation of 750*l.* in his own name and in that of his grandson, John Soane, Esq., to the general purposes of the Institute. The

noble president himself proposed a motion for a vote of grateful acknowledgment to Sir John Soane, which was carried by acclamation. After the meetings for the remainder of the season had been declared, as well as the subjects to be discussed thereat, thanks were voted to Mr. Donaldson, the secretary, for his zealous labours in the formation of the Institute. Mr. Robinson, vice-president, returned, in the names of the members then present, their heartfelt acknowledgments for the honour which their noble president had done them, not only in presiding with so much dignity, ability, and condescension, on that occasion, but for having given his countenance to the institution by accepting the office of president, and by his noble contribution of 50*l.* towards its general purposes. The whole evening passed off most satisfactorily to all present, and we doubt not that this institution may fill an important station among the scientific societies of England, where yet so much is left to be done for the cause of honourable talent engaged in national architecture.

STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

JUNE 15th.—The last ordinary meeting for the session was held this evening, Lieut.-Col. Sykes, V.P. in the chair.—Fellows were admitted and candidates proposed. Various presents were lying on the table. Among them was a complete collection of the publications of the French missionaries respecting China, in 27 4to. vols., presented by the Marquis of Lansdowne. The following papers were read or briefly noticed: 1. "On the collecting of statistics," by R. W. Rawson, Esq. This paper gave an outline of the course to be pursued in collecting statistical matter; and, besides general directions to the fellows on the subject, contained much valuable information. 2. "On the statistics of epidemic cholera," by Sir David Barry, M.D. The paper treated on the cholera as it occurred between the 26th of October 1831 and 31st of December 1832; giving very minute particulars of the progress of the disorder, number and proportion of deaths, &c. 3. "On the receipts and expenditure of labourers' families; tabulated," by the Rev. E. Stanley. 4. "Surgical statistics," by Joseph H. Green, Esq. A paper on the subject of education, compiled at the immediate suggestion of the Earl of Kerry, was also read. The paper stated the results of the education-returns moved for by his lordship (as far as the same could be fairly given), based on the printed volumes, and an approximation for those counties of which the returns have not been yet delivered. It stated that about 1,200,000 children receive daily instruction; and that about 1,250,000 were returned as attendants at Sunday schools. The number of children under fifteen years of age was computed at about 4,000,000; leaving, after making various deductions, 3,000,000 who should be receiving education; although, according to the writer's belief, no more than 1,300,000 were receiving such instruction as could fairly be considered actual education. The paper further stated that the country owed its utmost thanks to Lord Kerry for being the promoter of the inquiry which had taken place; and that it was also satisfactory to know that the immediate superintendence of it had been intrusted to a gentleman to whom every one who considers statistical knowledge of any value must feel deeply indebted. The accuracy of the volumes, when published, would, it was gratifying to learn, be guaranteed by the fact, that Mr. Rickman, who had conducted the most important series of statistical works ex-

tant—viz. the Population Abstracts—had also regulated the compilation of the education-returns. The writer concluded by warning the Society that the figures given could only be considered as a near approximation to the truth. The various papers read gave rise to much animated and interesting discussion, after which the meeting adjourned till November.

SUPPLY OF WATER.

Artesian Wells: conclusion.

THEY who thought they were obliged to look for the origin of subterranean waters in the precipitation undergone by strongly heated aqueous vapours, coming from the central regions, at the moment of their contact with the cold earthy strata next the surface, principally relied upon an argument drawn from a fact well deserving examination. I allude to the pretended existence of very abundant springs at the summit, or culminating point of certain mountains. Even little Montmartre* made a figure in the dispute. In fact, there was upon that hill a fountain (perhaps it still exists), which was scarcely fifty feet lower than its highest point. They asserted that no water could constantly supply a spring in such a place, except it came from below in a state of vapour. However, when the ground was examined, it was found that that part of Montmartre, lying higher than the fountain, and which could easily convey its waters to it by the simple draining of the interior, was about 1850 feet long by 617 feet broad. Now, the average quantity of rain, at Paris, which falls between the 1st of January and the 31st of December on such an area, infinitely exceeds the quantity of water supplied by the little fountain in question. They were obliged then to look for the difficulty in some other place—and fancied they had found it in a locality not far from Dijon; but there, too, they were refuted by a similar cause.

The celebrated Mount Ventoux, in the department of Vaucluse, has also been quoted as possessing a spring at an elevation of 5554 feet, called Font-Feyole; but the summit of the mountain is 633 feet still higher. Now, as long as no exact comparison of the quantity of rain, dew, and snow, which fall on that part of it which lies above Font-Feyole, has been made with the quantity of water furnished annually by this fountain, this proof is of no avail.

Indeed, one simple remark would suffice to destroy the theoretic speculations we have just now examined in detail; and that is, that at a time of great drought, almost all fountains diminish their supply, and many even then entirely cease to run, although the central vapours should rise and be resolved into water as usual.

An experiment upon the slight permeability of certain materials composing the crust of the earth, which was founded in truth, but improperly generalised, was the only cause which gave credit so long to the theory advanced by Aristotle, Seneca, and Descartes, upon the origin of fountains in elevated situations. Some fanciful ideas† as to the annual produce of certain running waters, and the ignorance of the age respecting the quantity of rain, dew,

* A hill of gypsum adjoining Paris to the north.

† This expression will not appear too strong when I mention that, in a book published under the auspices of Sir I. Newton, and in the Geography of Bernard Varrenus, used at the end of the seventeenth century at Cambridge, the following passage is to be found in chapter 16th:—"The rivers of the first order produce such a great quantity of water, that what each carries to the sea in one year exceeds the bulk of all the earth!!! Such is the water which the Volga casts into the Caspian Sea; so that it is absolutely necessary for the water to pass immediately from the sea into the earth," &c.

and snow, which fall in every climate, caused internal vapours to play the principal part in the formation of streams and rivers.

Thus, for example, it was not thought that the basin of the Seine,—I mean all that portion of ground in France watered by streams, great or small, which flow into that river,—annually received in rain a quantity of water, equal to the tribute carried by the Seine to the sea in the same space of time. Perrault and Mariotte were the first who studied the question, supported by experiments, and found, as is common in similar cases, that the vague ideas of their predecessors were the very contrary of the truth. According to Mariotte, the Seine discharges every year into the sea only a sixth of the quantity of water which falls in all the extent of its basin in rain, snow, and dew. The other five-sixths must either be evaporated to form clouds, absorbed by the superficial earths in which plants find nourishment, or penetrate by fissures in rocks into the internal reservoirs from which fountains issue. Mariotte's calculation has been remade on data more exact, especially as regards the gushing of the Seine. The following are the results, as they were stated in an excellent memoir, hitherto unpublished, by Mr. Dausse, civil engineer. The basin of the Seine* has an area of 4,327,000 hectares. Were the water falling into this basin not to evaporate, nor penetrate into the soil, and were the ground every where horizontal, it would form, at the end of the year, a liquid sheet of 53 centimetres (20 inches) deep. It is easy to see that such a sheet would contain a volume 22,933 millions of cubic metres of water. Now, at the Bridge of the Revolution,† the mean proportion of the water passing there is at the rate of 255 cubic metres in a second; or 22 millions of cubic metres in a day; or 8042 millions of ditto in a year.

This last number is to 22,933 millions of cubic metres, which is the annual amount of the rain received by the basin of the river, as 100 is to 285, or almost as 1 to 3. Thus, the volume of water passing annually under the Paris bridges is scarcely the third of that which falls in rain into the basin of the Seine. Two thirds of this rain either return to the atmosphere, by means of evaporation, or sustain vegetation and the life of animals, or run into the sea by subterranean communications.

This example will, I think, be sufficient to shew how little rivers themselves, when attentively studied, justify the systems of the ancient naturalists. The copious supply which they unceasingly roll into the sea from the interior of the continents, is every where only a very small portion of the mass of the annual rains which fall upon the surrounding countries.

This numerical discussion will likewise serve to refute those who have recently thought proper to attribute the water of Artesian fountains to interior basins, where that liquid mass has collected which formerly held the sedimental earths in suspension or dissolution. Such an hypothesis would evidently deserve no attention, except it could be proved, on one side, that rain-water is not abundant enough to account for the phenomena of springs; and, on the other, that it does not penetrate the crust of our globe to a great depth. Now, after what has been already said, every one must know what to think respecting these two points. Therefore, by devoting a few words to this new theory, I wished, above all, to find an opportunity of cheering up those persons who,

* We shall terminate it at Paris, as it will be easy to gauge the water that passes under one of the bridges there. † Opposite the Chamber of Deputies.

preposessed with the idea of the speedy exhaustion of the pretended ancient basins, where the waters had remained stationary for thousands of years, beheld in their imagination all the Artesian fountains drying up one by one. If, on the contrary, it is proved that these fountains are fed by atmospheric water, their intermitting periods will be exclusively connected with those of rain, snow, dew, and evaporation.

Earthquakes form an exception; because the violence with which they dislocate the mineralogical strata of the crust of the globe, breaking them here and there, may change the situation and force of sheets of subterranean water in particular localities. The possibility of these shocks never prevents houses from being built every day; neither ought they to deter us from constructing Artesian wells.

MOTION OF THE SUN THROUGH SPACE.

An interesting paper on this subject was lately read by Mr. Bird at a meeting of the Association of the Lovers of Science. After observing that the Sun's motion through space, and his direction towards the constellation Hercules, were discovered by Dr. Herschel, he stated that he was not aware that astronomers had ascertained whether the motion is rectilinear or curvilinear; he considered it highly probable that the motion is curvilinear: and, in order to point out the phenomena consequent on such a motion, he exhibited a diagram, from which it appeared that each fixed star would describe a small curve in the heavens, the extent and form of which would depend on the distance of the star from the Sun, and the form of the solar orbit. If we conceive, said the author, a star situated on the solstitial colure Capricorn, near which the constellation Hercules is situated, and towards which the Sun is advancing, the north polar distance of such a star will diminish during the progress of the Sun in this direction: after the Sun has attained his furthest point from the centre of his orbit in this direction, and as he proceeds towards the colure Aries, the north polar distance of the star increases; the star has also a retrograde motion in right ascension; its maximum north polar distance takes place when the Sun arrives at the colure Cancer, when the star is again situated on the colure Capricorn; and its maximum right ascension towards Aries is observed when the Sun reaches the colure Libra. These phenomena Mr. B. described as resulting from a curvilinear motion of the Sun through space; and referred to the tables of the proper motions of the fixed stars, according to Dr. Maskelyne, from which it appeared that the greatest number of stars situated near the colure Capricorn are decreasing in north polar distance, while those situated near Cancer are increasing; most of the stars between Cancer and Capricorn are retrograding in right ascension, while those situated between Capricorn and Cancer are mostly increasing. These appearances, the author observed, perfectly agree with the supposition of a circular orbit; there were some exceptions, but these, he conceived, were accounted for by the supposition that not only the Sun, but the stars themselves move, and it is highly probable that the direction in which some move may occasion them to appear to progress in a contrary direction to the others. The subject, he considered, demanded the attention of astronomers, as it is calculated to throw considerable light on the parallax of the fixed stars.

Probably the period is yet distant when the interesting speculations referred to in the pre-

ceding report will be verified. Too little is at present known of the amount and direction of the stellar motions—too many anomalies are found to exist, to warrant sufficient assurance of the direction of the path our Sun pursues through space; and still more obscure is our knowledge of the shape of that path, or the rate of the Sun's motion. That this translation of the Sun, with its tributary bodies, exists, there can be no doubt; and a comparison of the present carefully corrected catalogues of stars with future ones will not only throw much light on this subject, but will, it is likely, reveal other phenomena, among which may be mentioned the existence of planetary bodies of the solar system, which have been hitherto classed as fixed stars.

The lunar eclipse of the 10th inst. was visible from its commencement to its termination. The breadth of the penumbra gave the eclipse the appearance of one of greater magnitude than actually occurred. A slight haziness of atmosphere prevented an observation of the occultation of β Ophiuchi.

LITERARY AND LEARNED. UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

OXFORD, June 6th.—The following degrees were conferred:—

Bachelors in Civil Law.—H. Denison, Fellow, All Souls' College, Grand Comptroller.

Masters of Arts.—Rev. H. Jones, Scholar, Jesus College; H. Blackall, J. W. Joyce, Students, V. P. Taylor, Christ Church College; Rev. W. M. Cowper, W. L. Cox, Magdalen Hall; J. S. Brewer, Queen's College; S. T. Adams, Fellow, New College; H. S. Powell, Trinity College.

Bachelors of Arts.—J. Daniel, Christ Church College, Grand Comptroller; J. Price, W. Dyke, Scholars, R. Williams, Jesus College; T. D. Bland, H. L. Knight, Christ Church College; R. T. Maddison, University College; E. Shephard, Scholar, W. Gilbard, Worcester College; E. Ball, C. A. B. G. Hulton, Brasenose College; J. Overton, Magdalen Hall; T. Holme, Scholar, W. Scott, Michel Scholar, W. Andrews, Queen's College; C. W. Diggle, Scholar, W. B. Bennett, Wadham College; W. Hawkins, Exeter College; L. N. Izod, S. Rundie, Trinity College; E. Grimes, Oriol College; G. B. Daubeny, A. O. Fitzgerald, W. F. Soltan, R. Hardy, Balliol College.

June 10th.—The following degrees were conferred:—

Bachelor in Civil Law.—H. O. Wrench, Worcester College.

Masters of Arts.—Rev. W. T. Marychurch, Rev. T. M. Fallow, Rev. E. McAll, St. Edmund Hall; Rev. G. Woods, Scholar, Rev. M. Mitchell, University College; Rev. J. Llewellyn, Rev. St. G. A. Williams, Jesus College; J. Palmer, Rev. T. Carter, Rev. T. R. Barnes, Worcester College; Lord Boscawen, T. James, J. W. W. Tyndale, Christ Church College; Rev. R. P. Warren, Exeter College; Rev. R. G. Bedford, J. Hetherington, Rev. T. Davis, Rev. B. Davis, Rev. L. Miles, Queen's College; J. E. Wetherall, Lincoln College; W. R. Grove, Brasenose College; R. G. Macmillan, Scholar, Corpus Christi College; F. F. Langston, Rev. J. Pope, Rev. A. N. Buckridge, St. John's College; C. H. Oakes, Merton College.

Bachelors of Arts.—W. Melkiam, Corpus Christi College; J. Adams, Student, Christ Church College, Grand Comptroller; W. Smith, C. A. Palmer, Students, E. Dean, W. H. Bayley, H. L. Oswald, Christ Church College; J. Jones, C. Hulce, A. O. Moleworth, New Inn Hall; C. Hodge, D. Wheeler, G. Knight, R. Gardner, St. Edmund Hall; R. B. Jones, Jesus College; M. H. Vine, Scholar, S. D. Shatto, University College; C. Hocker, Exeter College; A. R. Campbell, Balliol College; J. Field, J. Stevens, Magdalen Hall; C. R. Barker, Wadham College; W. W. Rowley, F. R. Sower, Queen's College; M. Argles, Postmaster, Merton College; C. V. Crawley, Oriol College; T. G. James, Brasenose College; G. C. Berkeley, Pembroke College; W. H. Ley, Scholar, J. S. Austin, Trinity College.

The Theological Prize for 1855, on "The death of Christ was a propitiatory sacrifice, and a vicarious atonement for the sins of mankind," has been awarded to Mr. J. C. Fisher, B.A. Queen's College.

CAMBRIDGE, June 12th.—The Chancellor's medal for the best English poem was on Friday last adjudged to T. Whytehead, of St. John's College.—Subject: The Death of his late Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester.

The following degrees were conferred:—

Bachelors in Divinity.—Rev. J. F. Isaacson, Fellow, Rev. R. Burgess, St. John's College; Rev. H. Cathrop, Fellow of Corpus Christi College; Rev. J. Saunders, Rev. C. M. Barne, Fellows, Sidney Sussex College.

Masters of Arts.—J. Hough, Queen's College; T. Cotterill, St. John's College.

Bachelors in Civil Law.—Rev. G. Fisk, Corpus Christi College; T. E. Price, Clare Hall.

Bachelors in Physic.—A. R. Brown, A. F. Coope, Trinity College; G. Kemp, St. Peter's College; S. J. Jeaffreson, Pembroke College.

Bachelors of Arts.—R. Hilditch, St. John's College; J. B. Hartley, Jesus College.

THE LITERARY FUND.

The forty-sixth anniversary of the Literary Fund Society was celebrated in Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday. The Duke of Somerset presided; and we have seldom seen a more distinguished company than was gathered round his grace on this occasion. Amongst others, we may notice Lord Teignmouth, Baron Ompteda, Viscount De Fallons, Azmi Bey, Count Teleki, Count De Beaumont; of our men of science, Sir John Barrow, Dr. Roget, Dr. Paris, Dr. Sutherland, Dr. Lardner, Mr. Murchison, and Mr. Amyot; Members of Parliament, Emmerson, Tennent, Wyse, Tooke, French, Leader, and Vernon Smith; Sir W. Chatterton, Sir W. Betham, Sir Harris Nicolas, Mr. Wilkie, R.A., J. G. Lockhart, G. P. R. James, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Macready, &c. &c. &c.—Dr. Croly, one of the registrars, in a very eloquent address, enforced the claims of the Society, and with equal delicacy and judgment glanced at some of the very interesting cases of the past year, without in the slightest degree compromising names.—Mr. Murchison and Mr. Lockhart, also, in the course of the evening, bore the most honourable testimony to the advantages of the institution, drawn from cases within their own personal knowledge.—The treasurer's report was a very gratifying one. The sums announced amounted to upwards of 500*l.*, of which His Majesty's annual donation of 100 guineas, and a donation of 50*l.* from the Duches of Kent, formed a part.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

	Geographical, 9 P.M. Marylebone Literary and Scientific Institution, 8½ P.M. Dr. Lardner on the Pleasures, &c. of Science.
MONDAY	
	Zoological, 8½ P.M. Scientific Museum.
TUESDAY	Medico-Botanical, 8 P.M. Last Meeting.
	College of Physicians, 4 P.M. Harveian Oration.
	Royal Society of Literature, 4 P.M. Last Meeting.
	Western Literary, 8½ P.M. Mr. Britton's Lecture on Architecture, &c.: and Two following Weeks.
THURSDAY...	City of London Literary and Scientific Institution. Dr. Smith's Lecture on Regimen.

FINE ARTS.

EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY. (Seventh notice.)

ON entering the library, it is gratifying to observe, with reference to the architectural designs, that though many a splendid plan and brilliant proof of the artist's learning and skill are there presented to the public, merely to be admired and neglected, there are others which relate to actual edifices, either finished or in progress. In the first class we fear we must place No. 946, *Sketch for new Senate Houses*, J. Gandy, A. Of the possibility or probability of realising this magnificent vision we are not competent confidently to speak; yet when we see by No. 913, *Prior Park, Bath*, what a noble and extensive building is now completing

under the direction of H. E. Goodridge, we are inclined to believe the first, and to hope the last.—No. 929, *High Cliffe, Hampshire, a seat of the Right Hon. Lord Stuart de Rothesay, now erecting*. W. J. Donthorne. With much of baronial grandeur, there is nothing of the gloom which sometimes pervades such mansions. It is at once picturesque and elegant.—No. 951, *A mansion, &c. now erecting at Coghurst Place, Sussex, for Musgrave Briscoe, Esq., under the superintendence of D. Burton*. Another of the realities which we contemplate with pleasure, as calling high talent into exercise, and giving employment to hundreds.—No. 981, *Design for the London and Gravesend Railway, as proposed to be executed in Greenwich Park*. G. Smith. In the event of such an erection being permitted (which, however, we much doubt), Mr. Smith will be entitled to great credit for adapting it so pleasingly and skilfully to the style of the noble hospital in its neighbourhood.—We were also greatly pleased with four architectural drawings, by Mr. G. H. Smith, who shews, in his "Old English" designs, that he has caught much of the late Mr. Hunt's true feeling in that style.—No. 922, *Chalybeate, —a design to introduce the study of an ancient marble made at Rome, of Esculapius and Hygieia*. J. Goldcutt. At once appropriate in character, and in design and effect tasteful and interesting.—No. 967, *The Alhambra. Entrance from the Court of the Lions from the Court of the Fishpond, restored*. O. Jones. But that we know "such things are," we might consider this motley and many-coloured building a creation of the poet's or the painter's fancy. It is certainly a great curiosity. With similar feelings, we look at No. 1033, *Ruins of the Great Temple at Karnack*, by the same artist.—No. 1041, *East end of the Parthenon, Athens*; No. 957, *Statue of Bartolomeo Coleoni, Venice*; T. U. Cromek. These two clever drawings are among the results of this young artist's travelled practice; and are executed with a spirit that justly places him in the ranks of those who excel in this department of art.—No. 975, *An Architectural Sketch*, Sir J. Soane, R.A. Judging by the annexed quotation from Rousseau, there is some secret attached to this sketch. We wish the venerable knight would save Time the trouble, and draw the curtain up at once.—No. 982, *The Leaning Towers at Bologna*. J. Hayward. An able and, at the same time, a curious drawing. It is impossible to look at it without an anticipatory shudder at the crash and the crush that may one day take place.—No. 939, *Aston Hall, Warwickshire*, J. Buckler; and No. 1005, *View of the exterior of the old Workhouse of the Parishes of St. Olave and St. John, Southwark*, G. Allen; belong to past times, and to the associations connected with them. The writings of Sir Walter Scott have imparted to buildings of this description an interest much greater than they before possessed. There are many other drawings in the library, exceedingly valuable from their local, pictorial, or scientific character.—The medallic works are few. Among the principal are No. 1020, *Impressions of a Medal in gold, silver, and bronze, presented to Sir John Soane, R.A. as a tribute of respect from British architects*, W. Wyon, A.; No. 994, *A bacchanalian subject, embossed in sheet silver*, T. Sharp; and *Portraits*, by P. Rouw, J. Wilson, D. Morrison, N. Palmer, J. Renton, and A. J. Stothard; all of which are highly creditable to the talents of the artists whose names are attached to them.

[To be continued.]

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Lewis's Sketches and Drawings of the Alhambra, made during a Residence in Granada, in the Years 1833-4. Drawn on stone by J. D. Harding, R. J. Lane, A.R.A., W. Gauci, and John F. Lewis. Hodgson, Boys, and Graves.

A VALUABLE and charming addition to the pictorial library of this country; being no fewer than twenty-six representations, on a large scale,—one a general view, the others views in detail,—of that most magnificent and celebrated palace of the ancient Moorish kings, the Alhambra. Although evidently falling into decay, it still retains abundant proofs of its former splendour, in its various towers, gates, courts, halls, fountains, baths, &c., many of which are ornamented and finished in the most exquisite manner. Mr. Lewis's talents as an artist are too well known to the public, and have too frequently been eulogised by us, to render it necessary to say more of this beautiful work than that, although it is strongly marked by his peculiar style of execution, it abounds, also, with his peculiar excellence. Eight of the lithographs are by his own hand: in the remainder, his able coadjutors, Messrs. Harding, Lane, and Gauci, seem to have striven to outdo one another. The volume is dedicated, with great propriety, to the Duke of Wellington.

MUSIC.

MR. MORI'S MORNING CONCERT

WAS graced by as brilliant an assemblage of talent as his evening one, which we noticed a short time back. Among the vocalists were Malibran, Grisi, Miss Kemble, Rubini, Ivanoff, Tamburini, and Lablache. Two pieces from Bellini's new opera, *I Puritani*, were performed. The first, the popular polacca and quartet, excited in the audience a degree of admiration in which we could not very warmly sympathise. The other, a duet for two basses, with an imposing trumpet accompaniment, gave us more pleasure. Tamburini and Lablache sustained the vocal part admirably, and the astonishing power of the latter (which, be it observed, he always has the good taste to subdue when necessary) was thrown out in the last movement with a most magnificent effect. A new and young performer on the violoncello, M. Servais, played a fantasia of his own composition, which contained several beautiful airs of a very original character, besides giving scope for the display of extraordinary powers of execution. His intonation is quite perfect, but his tone, especially in the middle and low notes, is somewhat reedy and rough, a defect that must strike all ears accustomed to the performance of our own Lindley, who still remains, in this respect, not only unequalled, but unapproached. M. Servais, however, exhibited much beauty of tone in some passages of harmonics, and also whenever he played *pianissimo*, as the reediness was then so softened down that it became rather agreeable than otherwise. M. Herz and M. Schulz played a duet on two piano-fortes with admirable precision and brilliancy; but we regret that, in the composition of this piece, M. Herz should have selected a subject so trite and inelegant as the "Fall of Paris." A very curious and interesting feature of the concert was the performance of Madame Filipowicz, the female violinist, who really displayed much excellence. Her tone is good, her execution neat and correct, and her style evinces both taste and feeling. Madame Filipowicz appears not to aim at the highest points of me-

chanical difficulty; but all that she attempts she achieves, and achieves it well. Last, not least, Mr. Mori, in a concerto by Spohr and Lafont (we suspect the parts appended by the latter are those which serve to display the modern execution and new effects), outdid, if possible, all his former achievements. We regret that we are unable to speak of Spohr's new double quartet for stringed instruments, as the excessive heat prevented our remaining to the end of the concert. Q.

Mr. Holmes' concert on Thursday week at the Hanover Square Rooms went off with great applause. The Duchess of Kent and Princess Victoria were present, and seemed much pleased with the performance; and all the instrumental parts of which were well executed by the Academy pupils. Mr. Holmes acquitted himself with taste and spirit on the piano-forte.

DRAMA.

ON Friday, last week, *Fidelio* was produced at Covent Garden, and admirably performed by Malibran, who had perfectly competent allies in Mrs. Seguin, Templeton, Seguin, Duruset, and Bedford. The music is beautiful, and the whole went off with the utmost éclat.

At the English Opera House the public are now treated with a very cool reception; for with the cheque ticket is given another, which entitles the fortunate hot-holder to an ice. It is not true, however, that every one (the press excepted) is obliged to eat his portion. *I and my Double*, a new and merry farce, in which Wrench and Keeley flourish most amusingly, has been crowned with a reception the reverse of icy.

Mrs. Nisbett announces that hers is the coolest Queen's Theatre in London, as she ventilates it in the Eastern style. We inquired of a nabob's lady, recently from Bengal, how this was done, but failed in receiving the desired information.

The Victoria has been equally enterprising and successful. *Angelo*, a genuine tragic drama, enchains the faculties of the lovers of that order of amusement. Miss Grey is doing wonders in the *Actress of all Work*; and in the *Roof Scrambler*, Mitchell, as *Molly Brown*, a *Greasy Roamer* over the tops of houses, gives a capital and most laughable burlesque of the *Sonnambula*.

Mr. Cathcart has appeared at the Haymarket; where, also, we missed seeing a new piece of Buckstone's, mistaking it from the name and cast for a drama of last season.

VARIETIES.

Gratifying Fact.—At a recent annual meeting of the New Cemetery Company, the chairman "had great pleasure in announcing to the meeting the gratifying fact, that the burials in the Cemetery for the last year, were double in number those of the year preceding."

Horticulture.—The cultivation of flowers has been distinguished this week by two splendid exhibitions, both of which were crowded by distinguished and well-habited visitors. One was the second floral *fête* of the Metropolitan Society of Florists and Amateurs, and held at Jenkins's Nursery Gardens, in the Regent's Park: the other was at the Surrey Zoological Gardens on the same days (Monday and Tuesday), and, like the apple on which Paris decided the Mount Ida contest, it would be difficult to say which contained the rarest and most numerous specimens gratifying to the senses of sight and smelling. At the first, five

shillings were charged at the entrance: at the last, more reasonably, one shilling.

Edward Troughton, Esq., aged 81, died on the 12th at his residence in Fleet Street. He was a fellow of several learned and scientific societies; and his admirable productions of glasses and instruments for astronomical and other observations, together with an unblemished life and a vast store of useful information, justly rendered him one of the most respected men of his age and station whom our great metropolis could boast. His death will be regretted by the whole philosophical world.

M. Arago, member of the Institute, has commenced his public course of lectures on popular astronomy, with which he has been charged by the Bureau des Longitudes, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, at half-past twelve o'clock, at the Observatory.—*Paris Advertiser.*

Midnight.

"Of one departed world
I see the mighty shadow."

"Th' sweet at midnight, by the blazing fire,
When all the world is lock'd in silence deep,
To bid imagination's wings aspire
To Eden, beautiful as the dreams of sleep:
While view'd at distance, breaking on our fear,
The idols of the past arise again,—
The eye of mind embodies the once dear
In shapes of fairer mould, and free from pain.
They come! they come! and their fond looks of yore
Again to fancy seek to soothe our grief;
We feel their presence—feel at our heart's core,
And woe deceit, less palpable than grief;
We fain would speak, but hear no answering tone;
We start, and weep to find ourselves alone!" R. R.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

Scenes and Characteristics of Hindostan, with Sketches Anglo-Indian Society.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

■ The Laird of Logan; or Wit of the West, by John D. Carrick, 18mo. 3s. 6d. cloth.—On the Nature of Thought; or the Art of Thinking, by John Haslam, M.D. 8vo. 3s. sewed.—England and Wales; from Drawings by J. M. W. Turner, Esq. R.A. Part 19, royal 4to. 14s. 12mo. 4to. proofs, 21s.; imp. 4to. India proofs, 11. 11s. 6d.; imp. folio, India proofs, before letters, 21. 12s. 6d.; imp. folio, India proofs, before letters, with etchings, 3s. 3s.—Scott's Lake of the Lake, with the author's Notes, 18mo. 3s. cloth: Lay of the Last Minstrel, ditto, ditto; Marion, ditto, ditto, ditto.—Elements of Practical Harmony, by John Valentine, 8vo. 5s. cloth.—How to observe Geology, by H. S. Delabache, post 8vo. 10s. 6d. cloth.—Record Commission; Rotuli Curie Regis, 2 vols. royal 8vo. 11. 10s. cloth.—Plantagenet; a Novel, 3 vols. post 8vo. 11. 11s. 6d.—Reminiscences relating to Rev. John Ryland, by W. Newman, D.D. 12mo. 4s. cloth.—J. Koecker's Essay on Artificial Teeth, 8vo. 10s. 6d. cloth.—Taylor's Builder's Price Book, corrected for 1835, 8vo. 3s. sewed.—Smeaton's Painter's, Gilder's and Varnisher's Manual, 18mo. 2s. 6d. cloth.—Horse-Shoe Robinson, by J. P. Kennedy, 3 vols. post 8vo. 27s. 6d.—Guide to the Morning and Evening Service, by Thomas Stephens, 18mo. 4s. cloth.—A Manual of the Sects and Heresies of the Early Christian Church, 12mo. 3s. cloth.—Ditto, ditto, ditto, interleaved, 4s. cloth.—African Log on Christian Text, by the Rev. John Campbell, 18mo. 2s. 6d. cloth.—Ecce Lucanum, in use at Bury School, by the Rev. John Edwards, A.M. 8vo. 3s. 6d.—Specimens of English Dramatic Poets who lived about the Time of Shakespeare, with Notes, by Charles Lamb, 2 vols. fcap 14s. 6d.—Stories of Strange Lands, by Mrs. Lee, 8vo. 15s. cloth.—Ernest Campbell, by John Ainslie, Esq. 3 vols. post 8vo. 11. 11s. 6d.—Cortes; or the Fall of Mexico, by Dr. Bird, author of "Calvario," 9 vols. post 8vo. 11. 7s. 6d.—The Noble Deeds of Woman, fcap 7s. 6d. 6ds.—Perle in the Woods; a Tale, with Engravings, 12mo. 6s. half-bd.—Rev. W. Kirby's History, Habits, and Instincts of Animals, being the 7th Bridgewater Treatise, 2 vols. 8vo. 11. 10s. cloth.—Letters on the Philosophy of Unbelief, by the Rev. James Wills, 8vo. 7s. 6d.—Senior's Statement of the Provision for the Poor, 8vo. 7s. 6d.—Works of the Rev. R. Watson, Vol. IV. (being Vol. III. of his Sermons), 8vo. 8s. 6d.—Mountain's Twenty-one Sermons on various Subjects, 12mo. 7s. 6d. 6ds.—The History of the Assassins, translated from the German, by Dr. O. C. Wood, post 8vo. 7s. 6d. 6ds.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We often express the wish that our friends would communicate with us as early in the week as they can. After this season of the year it is particularly desirable; and when delayed we must be excused, as this week, for not noticing the letter.

ADVERTISEMENTS,

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